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SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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BANGLADESH

ERSHAD 26 AUG SPEECH IN MYMENSINGH REPORTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Mymensingh, Aug 26: The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt-Gen H M Ershad has declared that his Government wants to reach the fruits of political independence to the common people by ensuring their economic emancipation, reports BSS.

Gen. Ershad, who spent a busy day today, was addressing a huge gathering at Gaffargaon and cross sections of people at Mymensingh, Jamalpur and Tangail.

The people of Gaffargaon who thronged the railway station this morning cheered the CMLA when he told them that the building up of new Bangladesh would start from villages.

Gen. Ershad said that with this end in view the present administration is being decentralised and taken to the villages which will be the hub of all development and administrative activities.

The CMLA said that the present Government had attached top most priority to agriculture to bring about a revolutionary change in this sector. About Taka 1,400 crore, the highest so far, has been allocated to agriculture and rural development out of the total outlay of Taka 2,700 crore in the Annual Development Programme.

He said we must integrate man and land to achieve self-sufficiency in food. This integration would help emancipate our people economically, he added.

Land Reforms

Gen. Ershad told the cross sections of people at Mymensingh, Jamalpur and Tangail that the Government proposes to bring about land reform to maximise production potential of land and ensure round the year employment and due share of yields to the peasants.

The CMLA emphasised the need for launching an all out drive to motivate the people particularly those living in the rural areas to take to family planning. All our reforms and development efforts will go in vain if we fail to check the existing rate of population growth, he added.

Referring to the present education system, he said it must be changed. He pointed out that the certificate-oriented education has totally failed to serve the real purpose and meet the requirement of the nation. We will have to evolve such a system as will produce worthy citizens capable of making positive contributions to society.

Turning to judiciary Gen. Ershad said the Government wants to ensure quick dispensation of justice. With this end in view criminal procedure code has been amended. High Court benches have been set up in each divisions to mitigate the sufferings of the people, he added.

Jehad Launched

The CMLA said a jehad has been launched against corruption. He sought the cooperation of the people to eradicate this social vice which has been eating into the vital of our society.

Referring to the industrial policy of the present Government he said it is being made export-oriented to reduce our dependence on external aid.

Gen. Ershad expressed the hope that the price level would start stabilising from November-December this year. In this context he explained the reasons why the subsidy on kerosene oil and fertilizer was being reduced.

He advised the womenfolk to help the Government in its efforts to improve the lot of the commonman.

The CMLA called upon the people to work hard and with a missionary zeal for the overall development of the country.

Sapling Planted

Gen. Ershad, who is also Chief Advisor of Mukti Joddah Sangshad, planted a coconut sapling at Tangail as a part of tree plantation campaign launched by the Sangshad. He asked the freedom fighters to take part in the development activities now being undertaken by the Government in the same spirit as they fought in the War of Liberation.

Earlier, while he was travelling from Dacca to Mymensingh by train the CMLA went to some lower class compartments and talked to passengers freely. He enquired about their day-to-day problems.

Gen. Ershad was accompanied by DCMLA Rear Admiral M. A. Khan and GOC Nine Division and Zonal Martial Law Administrator Zone 'A' Major Gen. Abdur Rahman.

CSO: 4220/7877

WORLD BANK LENDS \$68 MILLION FOR TUBEWELL PROJECTS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 28 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Washington, Aug. 27: Bangladesh will receive a credit for 68 million dollars from the World Bank for the implementation of deep tube-well projects, reports BSS.

An agreement to this effect was signed on Thursday at the Bank's headquarter between Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Humayun Rashid Chowdhury and the Regional Vice-President of the World Bank Mr. Michael Wiehen.

The credit will be utilised for increasing food production through increasing the irrigated area by commissioning deep tube-wells, strengthening rural cooperative institutions and ensuring farmers to have access to essential production inputs and credit.

The new World Bank credit will be interest free with a small commitment fee and service charge and repayable in 50 years with a grace period of 10 years.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Wiehen lauded the efforts of the Bangladesh Government in successfully completing some of the World Bank-aided projects. In this connection, he made a particular mention of a number of the recent measures taken by the Government for mobilising domestic resources. He also expressed satisfaction at the 'satisfactory use' of the IDA funds in Bangladesh. He said that with the signing of this agreement the total commitment of IDA funds for Bangladesh has reached dollar two billion mark.

Ambassador H. R. Chowdhury thanked the World Bank for its continued sympathetic attitude to Bangladesh in its development efforts. He urged the international institution like the World Bank to assist Bangladesh generously to carry through her development plans for the welfare of the people.

CSO: 4220/7881

JUTE SECTOR TO GET LOAN FROM NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANKS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Aug 82 p 8

[Text] The nationalised commercial banks will extend a loan of Tk. 228 crore to the jute sector, public and private included during the current fiscal year (1982-83). The outstanding loan of the jute sector with the nationalised commercial banks stood at Tk. 466 crore as on June 30 1982 thus indicating a total involvement of Tk. 694 crore in the credit programme.

Of the total outstanding credit the public sector accounted for Tk. 330 crore and the private sector Tk. 136 crore. The loan repayment of both the public and private sector has been to the tune of only 25 per cent of the total disbursement on an average.

The outstanding loans of public sector jute mills amounted to Tk. 250 crore while that of the private sector stood at Tk. 16 crore. The loan to be extended to the jute mills during the period under review will amount to Tk. 149 crore.

The outstanding loans of the Bangladesh Jute Marketing Corporation (BJMC) and Bangladesh Jute Trading Corporation (BJTC) stood at Tk. 80 crore while loans outstanding with the private sector traders totalled Tk. 120 crore. Under the current credit programming the BJTC and BJMC will be extended an amount of Tk. 37 crore for funding raw jute purchase.

At the current level of credit programming at Tk. 228, the private sector will receive 12.5 per cent of the allocation while the rest will be extended to the public sector. In other words, the programme will finance the private sector to the tune of Tk. 26 crore and the public sector an amount of Tk. 202 crore.

The jute mills both private and public will however be funded by the nationalised commercial banks subject to their requirements.

CSO: 4220/7876

BUDDHIST DELEGATION RETURNS FROM MEETING IN MPR

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 Aug 82 p 3

[Text] The three-member Buddhist delegation from Bangladesh comprising Venerable Santapada Mahathero, President; Mr. D. P. Barua, Secretary General; and Mr. S. C. Barua, Treasurer of the Bangladesh National Centre of ABCP returned home on Monday evening after participation in the sixth Asian Buddhist Conference for peace in Ulan Bator and nearly two-week tour of Mongolia and USSR according to a Press release.

The ABCP headquarters has formally recognised this broad-based Bangladesh National Centre of ABCP as the only Centre here. About 250 delegates from 15 Asian countries participated in the Conference.

The Conference held in the capital of Mongolian People's Republic from August 16 to 19 awarded the International Buddhist Peace Medal engraved with the image of Lord Buddha in gold to Venerable Santapada Mahathero and Mr. D. P. Barua along with 19 other eminent Buddhists from 15 Asian countries for their outstanding contribution in promoting peace and harmony based on the compassionate teachings of Lord Buddha.

During a speech at the plenary session of the Conference on behalf of Bangladesh on August 17 Mr. D. P. Barua highlighted religious harmony among all communities in Bangladesh, a predominantly Muslim country in an atmosphere of complete religious freedom and spoke of promotion of Buddhist activities in Bangladesh.

He emphasised the role of Bangladesh for promotion of World peace against threat of a nuclear war and called for total ban on nuclear weapons by nuclear power states with halt and freeze of arms race for the survival of mankind.

A 21-member International Executive Council of the ABCP elected by the Conference for a five-year term includes Mr. D. P. Barua from Bangladesh.

CSO: 4220/7873

TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH AT NIAMEY MEET

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 28 Aug 82 p 4

[Text] Niamey (Niger), Aug. 27:--Following is the text of Foreign Minister A. R. Shams-ud-Doha's speech at the thirteenth Islamic Foreign Minister conference here on Monday.

Bismillah Hir Rahmanir Rahim

Mr. Chairman

Excellencies and distinguished delegates. Ladies and Gentlemen.

"I am greatly honoured to join this distinguished gathering of brother delegates to the 13th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and have great pleasure in bringing to you the greetings of my head of Government, Lt. General Hussain Muhammad Ershad.

My delegation and I are grateful to the Government and the people of Niger for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality extended to us. I am sure that my colleagues share our very warm appreciation for the excellent arrangements of the conference, and we are particularly happy that Niamey, the beautiful capital of Niger, is hosting this important conference.

The thought-provoking inaugural address delivered by Colonel Seyni Kountche, the President of Niger, has created a tremendous impact among all of us, and I would suggest that this important address containing many concrete, constructive and valuable observations, be incorporated in the documents of the conference.

Mr. Chairman, I consider it appropriate at this stage to refer to the tremendous work performed by the Islamic Secretariat towards setting up the conference, and I have no doubt that my colleagues will readily join me in paying our tribute to the patient and enduring leadership of Mr. Habib Chatty, our Secretary General.

Mr. Chairman, I would also like to take this opportunity of welcoming Sierra-Leone as a fellow member of our organisation and extend to the distinguished delegation our heartiest felicitations and the assurances of

our fullest cooperation. I have no doubt that Sierra Leone's return to this organisation will give the Islamic Conference added strength and vigour.

We are also very happy to welcome Benin as an observer at this conference and have no doubt the presence of the Foreign Minister of Benin in this conference will contribute towards our sense of unity.

Mr. Chairman, the passing away of His Majesty King Khalid Bin Abdel Aziz is an irreparable loss to the conference. His inspiring leadership will remain a shining beacon in our midst. We pray to Almighty Allah for his "magfirats."

Mr. Chairman, the convening of the 13th Islamic Foreign Ministers' conference in Africa at this moment is particularly significant for two reasons. Firstly, the importance of Africa in the Islamic world derives not only from the substantial Muslim population in the continent, but also due to the notable contribution made by Africa to the concept of universality of Islamic brotherhood. It is also important for us because of the heroic struggle that the people of Africa are waging to free themselves from the shackles of colonialism, racism and apartheid in southern Africa and Namibia. Bangladesh, together with the entire Islamic world, stands firmly behind the struggle for the independence of Namibia and for securing majority rule in South Africa.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that peace through justice alone can endure. In West Asia, such a peace is yet to be won. The components of any comprehensive settlement that guarantees a just and lasting peace in West Asia must embrace the following essentials:--

ME Peace

An acceptance of the fact by all parties that the question of Palestine lies at the heart of the Middle-East problem, that no solution can be envisaged without the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and to self-determination, independence and national sovereignty; that the participation of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people on an equal footing with all other parties is indispensable to our efforts towards a solution; that the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force imposes an obligation on Israel to withdraw completely and equickly from all the territories it occupies since 1967 including the holy city of Jerusalem.

It is on the basis of these essential principles that an end is possible to the turmoil and strife that has tormented this region for over three decades.

I would submit that the role of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco and his leadership has enabled us to maintain the momentum of focusing attention of these vital issues through the Al-Quds Committee and we are most grateful for His Majesty's untiring efforts in this regard.

The situation in Lebanon has led to a state of genocide and a recently published report by a 25-member commission of international jurists merits quotation: "Thousands of civilians, elderly people and children were burnt to death or buried in the ruins of buildings flattened by the most sophisticated internationally banned weapons". These activities constitute a flagrant violation of both international law and humanitarian principles universally accepted since World War II. There is no doubt that a considerable number of international legal acts apply to the crimes Israel has committed in Lebanon. We in Bangladesh join the world of Islam in condemning these acts and demand immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. These events have proved and established the identity of the Palestinian people, and we should now address ourselves to obtaining their de jure recognition. Israel cannot prevent the natural flow of history, even if it were to occupy all the land around, an intention she has already exposed herself to, nor that matter can Israel dictate the shape of Lebanese sovereignty notwithstanding the forces which have aided her aggression.

Gulf War

Mr. Chairman, The Islamic Ummah is facing a great crisis today. What particularly distresses us is the self-defeating fratricidal war between Iraq and Iran. Bangladesh, as a member of the Islamic Peace Committee, has made in depth efforts to bring this conflict to an end. It is imperative that this conference spares no efforts to resolve this conflict peacefully. We have a moral responsibility during this very session, to find a way to appeal to Iraq and Iran to halt hostilities immediately in their own interest, in the interest of the region and, of course in the larger interest of peace and stability. Bangladesh has been in constant touch with both Iran and Iraq. The leaders of both countries undoubtedly seek peace, and they also recognise the threat to Islamic unity which this war poses, and concurrently to the Nonaligned Movement in which this conference is substantially represented. For our part, we are at the disposal of both Iran and Iraq and the Conference for any service that we can render for bringing about a peaceful settlement of this tragic conflict. Mr. Chairman, may I in passing state that in Bangladesh and among Muslims of South Asia, the events in West Asia are not treated as foreign policy issues involving intellectual analysis. They are, in fact, directly our own national issues. Our commitment to peace through justice in this region and our involvement are therefore total.

One of the charter principles is to concert efforts in defence of our independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. We have watched with concern the continuing presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan. The situation does not seem to improve there; in fact it has grown from bad to worse. Hundreds of our Afghan brothers have perished and thousands more have been displaced from their homes and have taken shelter in neighbouring countries passing their days in uncertainty and misery. It is, therefore, imperative that foreign troops are withdrawn from Afghanistan in accordance with United Nations resolutions and the Afghan people be permitted to determine their own destiny without outside interference and intervention.

Mr. Chairman, it is very important that this conference should consider the adoption of a mechanism to deal with emergencies effecting the world of Islam. It is in this context that an experts' group met earlier this year in Dacca and have now submitted their recommendations to the secretariat.

We feel that the formation of a Ministerial Committee would enable us to face crises situations without the organisational difficulties we have recently encountered and which are unfortunately likely to recur.

Islamic Unity

Mr. Chairman, today the need for closer co-operation among the members of the Islamic Ummah politically and economically has assumed a new urgency. The success of the efforts of the Islamic World for the comprehensive and just solutions to our various problems depends on our united efforts and determined will. We, therefore, call for solidarity and unity among the Islamic states for furthering the cause of peace, amity and prosperity in the Islamic World. To safeguard and promote the trade and commerce of Islamic Countries Bangladesh believes that special efforts should be made to import products from fellow countries on a preferential basis. With this end in view Bangladesh had earlier proposed for the establishment of the Islamic Common Market. We would urge this August conference to consider our proposal.

Mr. Chairman, a programme of U.S. Dollar 3 billion has been set up for financing development programmes in the Islamic World. So far among the generous and affluent states Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have contributed towards this programme which has been created for the welfare of the Islamic LDC countries. We would submit a few suggestions in this regards.

- a) We assume that the allocation pledged by various member states is to be regarded as additional resources to amounts usually channelled through normal operation of the respective national development funds;
- b) the programme should be carefully monitored and followed up by the OIC Secretariat and the concerned national funding agencies in terms of inflow and disbursement;
- c) the allocation should be replenished and increased from time to time by the donor member-states;
- d) in addition to the annual meeting between the general Secretariat and the donor member-states another committee consisting of the donor countries of the national development funds nominees of the Governments of the recipient member-states and the General Secretariat should also meet annually to discuss matters of common interest relating to the programme.

Mr. Chairman, Bangladesh is committed to the achievement of General and Complete Disarmament (GCD). We have noted with regret that the recent special session of the United Nations' General Assembly ended inconclusively. We urged upon the two super powers and other militarily significant countries

to engage in serious negotiations under the aegis of the committee on disarmament in Geneva on the CTBT (Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty) and also on the CWT (Chemical Weapons Treaty).

Bangladesh is for the establishment of nuclear-weapon free zones. The nuclear weapon states should co-operate with the countries of Africa, Middle East and South East Asia in this respect.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to conclude by stressing once again that the values of Islam are in complete harmony with the most progressive economic political and social forces of the contemporary Islamic world. The principles of human dignity, equality and justice are some of the fundamental teachings of Islam.

The Muslim world is now passing through a critical phase of history. We are torn by strife at a time when unity alone can sustain us. If we fail at this moment, posterity will condemn us for our lack of vision; certainly, we will remain answerable to Almighty Allah. It is imperative that we sink our differences peacefully settle our internal disputes and work unitedly towards the greater glory of Islam."

CSO: 4220/7880

BANGLADESH

ERSHAD MESSAGE TO UNITED NATIONS ON NAMIBIA DAY

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 27 Aug 82 p 3

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. General H. M. Ershad has sent the following message to the United Nations on the occasion of the Namibia Day that was observed on August 26, according to a PID handout.

"On the auspicious occasion of the observance of Namibia Day, I, on behalf of the Government and the people of Bangladesh wish to reaffirm our total and unflinching solidarity with the valiant people of Namibia in their just struggle for national independence and sovereignty under the leadership of SWAPO--the true and authentic representative of the Namibian people.

In spite of the termination of the mandate of South Africa over Namibia by the General Assembly sixteen years ago, South Africa had continued to frustrate every effort of the international community to secure the withdrawal of its illegal presence from Namibia. South Africa, through its abhorrent policies of repression, racial discrimination and the brutality of apartheid, conducted mass arrests, murder, torture, and imprisonment of thousands of innocent Namibian citizens. In utter defiance and contravention of all norms of international law, Namibia has been transformed into a launching pad for committing aggression against peace-loving neighbouring countries.

We salute those countless Namibians who made supreme sacrifices for the cause of independence of Namibia and for upholding Justice and human dignity. We pay tributes to the courage and fortitude of thousands of Namibians who languish, incarcerated behind prison walls, and thousands who suffer the indignity of colonialism and apartheid.

On this solemn occasion, I firmly reiterate once again, on behalf of the people and Government of Bangladesh, our demand for the complete and immediate implementation of the Security Council Resolution No. 435 (1978) which is the only framework for peaceful transition of Namibia from colonial subjugation and racial discrimination to national independence, freedom and equality".

Doha's Message

Foreign Minister Mr A R Shams-ud Doha has sent the following message to the United Nations on the occasion of the Namibia Day.

"On the occasion of the observance of Namibia Day we firmly reiterate our unflinching support and solidarity with the people of Namibia who continue to wage a heroic struggle for the self-determination and national independence of their country under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole and authentic representative.

"In one of the darkest chapters of human history, the people of Namibia struggled against unkept promises, barbarous colonial exploitation, abominable racial discrimination and apartheid. South Africa, in flagrant defiance of the opinion and conscience of the International Community, frustrated all efforts to secure a peaceful transition of Namibia from colonial rule to freedom. The militaristic Pretoria regime extended its abhorrent practice of racism into this territory. While many tales of oppression, brutality and injustice remain untold, thousands of innocent Namibians have been killed, imprisoned, maimed and a large number of them were forced to seek refuge in neighbouring countries. The resources of the country are being systematically plundered and exploited; the territory serves as an operational base for the Racist regime to launch aggression against neighbouring states.

"The world community must take steps to secure the immediate release of the Namibian freedom fighters who are awaiting their deaths in the prisons of the racist South African regime.

"On this solemn occasion we unequivocally reaffirm our continued and abiding support to the peaceful transition of Namibia from colonial oppression to independence in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, in particular the Security Council Resolution No. 435 (1978)."

CSO: 4220/7879

BANGLADESH

BANGLADESH, PRC SIGN CULTURAL COOPERATION PACT

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 27 Aug 82 p 3

[Text] The Executive Programme under the agreement for cultural cooperation between the Governments of Bangladesh and China for the year 1982-83 was concluded in Peking recently at the Great Hall of the People, according to a PID handout.

It was signed by Mr. Lu Zhi Xian, Chinese Vice-Minister for Culture, and Mr M M Rezaul Karim, Ambassador of Bangladesh, on behalf of their respective Governments. The signing ceremony was also attended by Mr. Chen Xin Ren, Adviser to the Ministry of Culture.

The Executive Programme is the first document signed by the two Governments within the framework of the agreement for cultural cooperation concluded between Bangladesh and China on November 17, 1979. It provides for exchanges and cooperation between the two Governments in a wide variety of fields including culture, education, science, art, sports, radio, television, film and press.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Lu Zhi Xian expressed the hope that the signing of the document would not only facilitate the development of cultural cooperation but would also contribute to the promotion of cooperation between China and Bangladesh in other fields.

Ambassador Rezaul Karim described the occasion as an important landmark in the field of cultural cooperation which put the seal of formality on a process already being pursued by the two peoples by forging and strengthening their age old cultural bonds.

CSO: 4220/7879

JOURNALISTS ISSUE STATEMENT ON PRESS COMMISSION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Three leaders of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and the Dacca Union of Journalists (DUJ) on Thursday expressed their concern whether the Press Commission would be able to meet with the "expectations" of the journalists' union, reports ENA.

In a joint statement issued in Dacca on Thursday BFUJ Secretary General Reazuddin Ahmed and DUJ President Anwar Zahid and DUJ General Secretary Amanullah Kabir recalled that the journalists' union had demanded the Press Commission "with the broad hope that it will be able to formulate guiding principles and policies for the healthy growth of the industry and development of a free Press in the country."

The leaders regretted that the profession of journalism was hardly represented in the Press Commission.

The leaders noted with "deep concern" that contrary to earlier Government declaration, the national news agencies were not also represented in the Press Commission.

The statement said, "We note with deep concern that contrary to the earlier Government declaration, the Bangladesh Press Commission has finally been constituted without any representative from the national news agencies. The news agencies play a vital role in the affairs of Press and have their own specialities and peculiarities.

The terms of reference of the Bangladesh Press Commission also contain special mention of the news agencies. Under these circumstances, we fail to understand how the Press Commission could play an effective role without representation from such a vital sector.

"In this connection we are further constrained to note that the Bangladesh Press Commission has been composed mostly with members representing the proprietary and official interests. The journalists' union demanded the constitution of the Press Commission with the broad hope that it will be able to formulate guiding principles and policies for the healthy growth of the industry and development of a free Press in the country.

But, unfortunately, the composition of the Press Commission hardly represents the profession of journalism. This has left us in doubt if the Press Commission will be able to fulfil the expectations".

FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SENTENCED TO 3 YEARS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The five-member Special Martial Law Tribunal No. 1 has found former Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock S. A. Bari AT guilty of the charge of corruption and abuse of official position under regulations 11 and 11.9 of MLR 1, 1982 and convicted and sentenced him to suffer RI for 3 years and to pay a fine of Taka 4 lakh in default, to suffer RI for another 2 years, reports BSS.

In a unanimous judgement on Thursday Tribunal also found two of the co-accused, Rezaul Haque Chowdhury and Manzurul Islam alias Ratan Kanti Mallick, guilty of the charges and convicted them. Rezaul Haque Chowdhury has been sentenced to suffer RI for two years and to pay a fine of Taka one lakh, in default to suffer RI for one year more. Manzurul Islam alias Ratan Kanti Mallick has been sentenced to suffer RI for one year and to pay a fine of Taka fifty, in default to suffer RI for 15 days.

Ratan Kanti Mallick, a broker by profession, posed and impersonated as Manzurul Islam to apply for and obtain mechanised boat which he later sold out. He was arrested by the police during the hearing of the case and produced before the Tribunal.

The remaining 10 co-accused were found not guilty and acquitted. They are former State Minister Dr. Aftabuzzaman, ex-MP Mr. Mahmudul Karim, Mr Anwarul Azim, Mr Saifullah Khaled, Mr Mohibul Haq Siddiqui, Mr Nesarul Islam Kutubi, Mr Shamsher Ali, Mr A. K. M. Shaiduzzaman, Mr Nazrul Islam Sikdar, and Mr A. K. Noor Mohammad.

The tribunal is headed by Brig M. Mashahed Chowdhury. Other members are Commander Mohammad Nurul Islam, Wing Commander A. S. M. Mahbubur Rahman, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mr Z. A. Shamsul Haque, and Additional District and Sessions Judge Mr Md. Habibullah.

In respect of three of the acquitted accused persons namely, Mr Noor Mohammad, Mr. Nazrul Islam Sikdar and Mr. Shamsher Ali, all of whom are government officers, the tribunal observed the manner in which they have exercised their official responsibility in attesting photographs shows lack of proper care, they cautioned and the same be noted in their service records.

The tribunal heard the case for days during which 60 witnesses, including one court witness, were examined and cross-examined.

The prosecution story in brief was that during his tenure of office as the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, S. A. Bari AT in collusion with the co-accused obtained through corrupt or illegal means or through abuse of official position, pecuniary advantages to the tune of Tk. 38,50,600 either for himself or for others and thus caused prejudice to the economic and financial interest of the state to that extent. Accused S. A. Bari AT in deliberate violation of the prescribed rules and procedures illegally allotted 54 mechanised fishing boats and 36 marine diesel engines at subsidised rates to fake fishermen or nonfishermen out of which 31 boats and 19 engines were delivered.

The prosecution case was conducted by Special Public Prosecutor Mr Abdur Razzaque Khan and Assistant Attorney General Gazi Abdul Mannan.

Over 15 Advocates including Mr Ataur Rahman Khan, Mr Abdul Malek, Mr Julmat Ali Khan and Mr Aminur Haque appeared for the defence.

CSO: 4220/7876

BENEFITS OF CHANGE IN CRIMINAL CODE EXPLAINED

Home Minister's Press Conference

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Home Minister Maj. Gen. Mahabbat Jan Choudhury on Thursday said that the reforms in the country's Criminal Procedure Code were brought in the interest of speedy disposal of cases and with the sole intention of making justice easy and accessible to the commonman.

Major General Choudhury was explaining the amendments brought in the criminal law and corresponding administrative measures at a Press conference at the Cabinet room of Bangladesh Secretariat. The Press conference was scheduled to be addressed by Mr K. A. Baker, Minister for Law and Land Reforms. But, he could not address it as he was indisposed.

The Home Minister said that the present Government attached utmost importance to the immediate disposal of some one lakh cases which remained pending for years causing immense sufferings to the concerned people.

General Choudhury pointed out that the criminal code of 1898 was till now the basis for dispensation of criminal cases. Amendments had been brought in it on various occasions to cope with the demands of time and in changed situation. But, in spite of amendments, a large number of cases remained pending shattering the confidence of people in justice, he said.

The Home Minister said that the present Government felt the urgent need for removing the administrative and procedural inadequacies to expedite dispensation of justice. Accordingly, the Criminal Law Reforms Committee was formed, he said.

The committee was appointed by the Chief Martial Law Administrator on April 20 with the Secretary of Cabinet Division Mr M. M. Zaman as its Chairman, Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs Mr M. K. Anwar, Secretary of Establishment Division Mr Fayezuddin Ahmed and Additional Secretary in-charge of Law Division Mr Nuruzzaman Choudhury as members. The terms of reference of the committee were to examine the existing provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898 with a view to making suitable amendments for expeditious trial and disposal of criminal cases. All the members of the committee were present at the Press conference and explained the amendments

brought in the code. The committee interviewed a number of people and eminent lawyers before formulating the recommendations for amending the procedure of criminal administration. The report of the committee was submitted to the CMLA on May 31. On the basis of the report, the Code of Criminal Procedure (second amendment) Ordinance was promulgated by the Chief Martial Law Administrator which came into force since August 21.

Maj Gen Mahabbat Jan Choudhury said that the government had adopted the recommendations with some changes after carefully examining different aspects and probable impact of the changes proposed. He said that the government would not claim perfection and as such, criticism, suggestions for improvement and correction were always welcome.

BBC Report Nailed

BSS adds: Answering questions, the Chairman and the members of the committee asserted that with the new amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure administration of justice would be expeditious and that there would be no miscarriage of justice.

Elaborating further, they said the amendments excluded 'warrant procedure' but retained the 'summon and summary procedure' in respect of trying a case.

They also refuted a BBC report broadcast today contending that the system of issuing warrants had been abolished and that anyone could be apprehended without a warrant by the police. It is a misconceived idea and not correct the officials said.

The amendments will now facilitate trial of an accused even if the other coaccused were not apprehended in the case, they said. But in such a case the abscondence of the coaccused person or persons will have to be publicised at least in two national dailies they added.

Reluctance on the part of a witness to appear before a court will be no more there since the T A has been enhanced from Taka 5 to 15 (depending on the distance).

Main Features

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Following are the salient features of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1982.

1. Section 4 has been amended omitting the definitions of "summons case" and "warrant case." Distinction between the two classes of cases has been done away with and they will be classed as cases for trial under one procedure.

2. Section 9 has been amended providing that in a district where the District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or any Magistrate of the

First Class will be especially empowered under Section 29C to try any offence, all Assistant Sessions Judges of the sessions division within which the district is situated shall be deemed to have been appointed as Additional Sessions Judges of that division. But they will not have the power to award a sentence of death as Section 31 is so amended.

3. A new section, namely, Section 29C has been inserted empowering the Government to invest a District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or any Magistrate of the First Class to try all offences not punishable with death or with transportation or with imprisonment for a term exceeding 10 years. They will not, however, be able to award an imprisonment for a term exceeding 7 years as provided by inserting a new section, namely, Section 33A.

4. Section 32 has been amended enhancing the powers of the Magistrates as follows:

Magistrate First Class: Present powers of 3 years imprisonment and a fine of Tk. 5,000 to be enhanced to 5 years imprisonment and a fine of Tk. 10,000.

Magistrate Second Class: Present powers of 2 years imprisonment and a fine of Tk. 2,000 to be raised to 3 years imprisonment and a fine of Tk. 5,000.

Magistrate Third Class: Present powers of 1 year imprisonment and a fine of Tk. 1,000 to be raised to 2 years imprisonment and a fine of Tk. 2,000.

5. Section 167 has been amended laying down the time-limit for completion of investigation of summary cases within 30 days and other cases within 60 days from the date of receipt of the first information by the police or order of the Magistrate for investigation. This time-limit can be extended by the Magistrate by another 30 days provided good and sufficient causes are shown by the prosecution. In order to ensure justice, the Sessions Judges have been empowered to extend this time further. In case no extension of time is allowed by the Magistrate for completion of the investigation, the accused person, if in custody, will be released.

6. Section 171 has been amended giving the police the responsibility to ensure production of witness in police cases.

7. Section 200 has been amended laying down that it will not be necessary to examine all the witnesses present.

8. Section 202 has been amended giving the Magistrates powers to order enquiry or investigation into cases triable by Sessions Judges and to accept final report in such cases.

9. Section 205A and Section 205B have been omitted dispensing with the requirement of furnishing copies free of cost.

10. Section 242 has been amended providing for framing of charges before the commencement of the trial.

11. Section 250 has been amended providing for punishing the persons bringing false and frivolous accusations with imprisonment and fine also.
12. Chapter XXI has been omitted abolishing the Warrant Procedure of trial.
13. Section 260 has been amended providing for mandatory trial of all cases for offences punishable with 2 years imprisonment in a summary way.
14. Section 262 has been amended providing for awarding a maximum sentence of 2 years imprisonment in a summary trial in place of 3 months.
15. A new section, namely, Section 339B has been inserted providing for trial in absentia of the accused.
16. A new section, namely, Section 339C has been inserted fixing a time-limit for disposal of cases to 30 days in the case of a Magistrate and 60 days in the case of a Sessions Judge. This time can be extended by another 30 days except in a case of trial in a summary way. If trial cannot be concluded within the specified time or the extended time, the trial shall stand stopped and the accused person released.
17. Section 345 has been amended expanding the scope of compounding of offences with or without the permission of the Court.
18. Section 407 has been amended empowering the Additional District Magistrate to hear appeals from the judgment of Magistrates of Second and Third Class.
19. A new chapter XXXIIA has been inserted laying down a time-limit for the disposal of appeals and revisions to 60 days from the date of admission and calling for the record.
20. A new section, namely, section 509A has been inserted providing for using in evidence the post mortem reports under certain circumstances stated in the section without examination of the Medical Officers who made the reports.
21. Section 510 has been amended providing for using in evidence the experts' report without examination of such experts in suitable cases.
22. Transitory provisions have been made laying down the following:
 - (a) The amendments will not be applicable to the trial of cases that have already commenced excepting the provisions relating to trial in absentia;
 - (b) The cases already pending for investigation by the police will have to be completed within 90 days from the commencement of the Ordinance;
 - (c) Trial of all cases including hearing of all appeals pending in any court including the Supreme Court will have to be completed within 180 days from the date of commencement of the Ordinance;
 - (d) Exception has been made providing that the time-limit regarding the completion of investigation and trial will not be applicable in gang cases (cases under section 400 and 401 of the Penal Code).

23. With the enhancement of the powers of the Magistrates, the scope of trial of cases by them has been expanded by amendment of Schedule II.

N.B.--By an earlier amendment of section 350 Criminal Procedure Code by the Law Reforms Ordinance (Ordinance XLIX of 1978) the right of the accused to claim a de novo trial has been abolished.

CSO: 4220/7877

ENERGY MINISTER TELLS PLANS TO STREAMLINE POWER SECTOR

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The DCMLA and Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Air Vice-Marshall Sultan Mahmud said that as the economy of our country was inseparably linked with power "We can and we will shape our future by strengthening this vital sector" reports BSS.

The DCMLA was addressing a 2-day review meeting on power development and policy that concluded in Dacca on Thursday.

Air Vice-Marshall Sultan Mahmud said that steps would be taken to reorganise the power sector. Amongst many new concepts separation of the marketing organs from the generation and transmission functions would also be considered he said.

The rationale behind this restructuring he said was to ensure marketing of power on commercial basis.

He said that whatever might be the present generation capacity PDB and REB must have to satisfy its consumers. It would therefore necessitate much deeper involvement and greater sense of professionalism than what was seen and felt by the consumers at present he said.

The DCMLA said 'we can hardly afford to be complacent at the present generating position though it is showing signs of improvement'.

While discussing the statistics of system loss the DCMLA said that it was beyond any acceptable limit on both technical and non-technical spheres. He urged the officials to gear up administrative supervision and enforce the existing laws.

Of today's failings in the PDB he said these had accumulated over a period owing to poor planning management, lack of proper accounting and financial control.

About the failure to collect revenue, stop the tampering of meters and malpractices of electrical connections, the DCMLA emphasised that whatever might be the reason put forth it would from now on be the responsibility

of every man up to the rank of line-man of the area. The accountability should not be restricted to only the accounts department.

The DCMLA said that Government had withdrawn minimum charge of electricity on small industrial and domestic consumers.

Deliberating on the inadequacy of generation source on the Western grid, the DCMLA suggested that immediate plans be drawn up to procure the minimum desired generators and the funds requirement be taken up with the appropriate authority as soon as possible.

As for the future plan he advised that the economics of an additional 100 MW at Kaptai re-evaluation of Sangu and Teesta projects finalisation of the installation of new generators at Ashuganj and Ghorashal be done as soon as possible. Emphasising on the timely completion of the project, he hoped that there would be no lack of coordination and supervision.

One of the most important aspects of satisfying a consumer he advised was not merely to extend the consumer connections of greater Dacca, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi, but to ensure a steady performance of the distribution system. Of course, he added, our aim was to provide electricity to every potential consumer from Taknaf to Tetulia.

He said that every individual in PDB and REB must feel responsible for the failures no matter how trifling it was.

The DCMLA exhorted that in a service rendering organisation the onus devolves not only on the administration but also on the individuals comprising the institution. It is the total identification with the organisation, the pride of the individuals of the organisation that enhances consumer's respect, he added.

He reminded 'electricity is a symbol of service. It's a raw material for our economic development and its progress guides the destiny of our nation'.

The review meeting was participated by PDB, REB, Atomic Energy Commission, Planning Commission, BUET, Titas transmission and distribution and members of the energy division of the Ministry.

CSO: 4220/7876

OFFICIAL TELLS STEPS TO DEVELOP INLAND PORTS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] Narayanganj, Aug. 25:--The Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator Rear Admiral M. A. Khan said that Government had taken up steps to further develop 30 inland and terminal ports at Chittagong and Khulna to increase trade in the country.

Speaking as the chief guest at the handing-over ceremony of two sea-going coasters held at the premises of Narayanganj Dock Limited on the eastern bank of the river Sitalakhya this morning, he said that Government had also taken up schemes to make the rivers navigable for proper and smooth transportation of goods within the country. The function was also addressed by Mr. M. A. Sattar, Managing Director of Narayanganj Dock Limited, and Mr. Waliur Rahman, Managing Director of Friends Shipping Lines Limited.

The DCMLA said the existing number of 543 registered cargo ships and 1,477 dump barges in the country is far short of meeting the requirements. The DCMLA stressed the need for increasing its number to help facilitate inland trade.

Rear Admiral M. A. Khan said that a country could not attain prosperity through forcing assistance. He urged all for proper harnessing of the country's resources and manpower in order to achieve the goal of self-sufficiency. The DCMLA observed that domestic trade in waterways constituted about four million tons which were 55 per cent of the total domestic trade volume.

Besides, he said that inland trade of the country would be increased by 15 per cent per year during the scheme taken under Second Five-Year Plan. In this context, Rear Admiral Khan told that large number of river craft and vessels will be needed to handle the increased traffic of cargo.

The DCMLA called upon all to dedicate themselves to the task of nation-building activities for a happy and prosperous Bangladesh and to change the lot of the nation within the shortest possible time. Rear Admiral Khan lauded the role of the technicians and workers of Narayanganj Dock for constructing 600 WDT coasters and this would also create impetus to others he added. He expressed the Government's firm determination for protecting the interest of the local industries.

The DCMLA also formally handed over the keys of the two coasters to the owner of the Friends Shipping Lines Limited. Later he went round different sections of the coasters.

The two sea-going coasters each having 600 tons capacity and 550 horse power were first ever built with the help of local expertise and technical knowhow in the private sector. The cost of each coaster is at Tk. 55 lack.

CSO: 4220/7874

BANGLADESH

BRIEFS

RICE PRODUCTION--The public sector development allocation through the Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the agricultural crops' sub-sector totalled over Taka 1400 crore during the post-independence period till June 30 '82. This included the ADP allocation of about 400 crore taka for the sub-sector in 1981-82. The production of major food crops rice and wheat recorded a rise from 98.79 lakh tons in 1972-73 to 146.37 lakh tons in 1980-81. While the production of rice increased from 97.74 lakh tons in 1972-73 to 136.62 lakh tons in 1980-81 that of wheat rose from 1.09 lakh tons to 10.75 lakh tons. The index of rice production with the average bench mark from 1968-69 to 1970-71 as the base year, i.e. 100 stood at 121 in 1980-81. In case of wheat with the same base year, the index of production was 489 in 1980-81. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Aug 82 p 1]

AMBASSADOR TO NEPAL--The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh have decided to appoint Mr. Abdul Bari Additional Foreign Secretary as Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Kingdom of Nepal says a PID handout. Born on 5th November 1932 Mr. Bari graduated from the Dacca University with Honours in English literature in 1955. He joined the Pakistan Foreign Service in 1956. He studied at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Massachusetts USA in 1955-56. Mr. Bari served in various diplomatic assignments in Sweden, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Czechoslovakia, Poland and the Soviet Union. He was a Director-General in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from September 1973 to November 1976 and Bangladesh Ambassador to Iraq from late 1976 to Mid 1980. Since July 1980 he has been serving as Additional Foreign Secretary. He is married and has three sons. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Aug 82 p 12]

ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE--Niamey (Niger), Aug 26: The 13 Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference at its plenary session yesterday adopted a resolution approving Dacca as the next venue of the Islamic Foreign Ministers conference, reports BSS. The resolution by acclamation also approved that the 14 Islamic Foreign Ministers conference at Dacca in addition to being the annual meeting will also serve as the preparatory Foreign Ministers meeting for the summit to be held in Morocco. The resolution also accepted the request by Bangladesh to hold the 14 Islamic Foreign Ministers conference in December 1983. The exact date will be determined by consultation between the kingdom of Morocco, the Secretariat of Islamic conference and Bangladesh. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Aug 82 p 1]

CSO: 4220/7874/7878

PAPER GIVES DETAILS OF GANDHI CABINET RESHUFFLE

Ministers Change Portfolios

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] Mr P. C. Sethi was moved to the Home Ministry from the Railways in a major reshuffle of the Union Cabinet on Thursday, when Mrs Indira Gandhi inducted five new Ministers of State and three new deputy ministers into the government, raising the strength of her Council of Ministers from 54 to 60.

The new Ministers of State are: Mr H. K. L. Bhagat (Works, Housing and Parliamentary Affairs), Mr N. K. P. Salve (Information & Broadcasting), Mr Virbhadra Singh (Industry), Mr Pattabhi Rama Rao (Finance), Mr Ramchandra Rath (Chemicals & Fertilisers). The new Deputy Ministers are: Mr Ashok Gehlot (Tourism), Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad (Law, Justice & Company Affairs), Mr Digvijay Singh (Ecology).

The reshuffle took place at a very short notice and not many Ministers knew of the changes in their portfolios until the last moment. Three of the five new Ministers of State (Mr Rath, Mr Rama Rao and Mr Singh) and one of the three new Deputy Ministers (Mr Azad) could not take oath, administered by President Zail Singh at 4 p.m. because they were not in town. They are expected to take oath later.

Two Ministers of State, Mr Charanjit Chana and Mr S. S. Sisodia, who had tendered their resignation from the Ministry earlier have left the Council of Ministers. Mr Chana and Mr Sisodia could not re-enter the Rajya Sabha in the last biennial election.

Portfolio Changes

Significant portfolio changes included the shifting of Mr V P Sathe from Information and Broadcasting to the new Ministry of Fertilizers and Chemicals and that of Mr C M Stephen from Communications to Shipping and Transport. Mr A P Sharma, who was holding the Tourism and Civil Aviation portfolio hitherto, has been shifted to Communications.

Labour has now been given a Cabinet rank under Mr Veerendra Patil's charge. He will also look after Rehabilitation.

Mr Bhagwat Jha Azad, who was until now looking after the Labour portfolio as a Minister of State with an independent charge, has been entrusted the Ministry of Civil Aviation in addition to the Ministry of Civil Supplies.

Tourism, which has been separated from Civil Aviation, has now been placed under the independent charge of Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, Minister of State.

Mr A B A Ghani Khan Choudhury becomes the Railway Minister in place of Mr P C Sethi.

For the first time in two and a half years, the Ministry of External Affairs will have a Minister of State, Mr A A Rahim, till now handling Law, Justice and Company Affairs.

This is in view of the added load on the Ministry because of the coming non-aligned summit and the Commonwealth Heads of State meet.

Mr Gargi Shankar Mishra becomes Minister of State for Steel, Mines and Coal.

Minister for Sports

Mr Buta Singh takes over as Minister of State for Supplies and Sports.

Mr Dalbir Singh will be Minister of State for Energy, Mr C P N Singh, Minister of State for Non-conventional Energy Sources in the Ministry of Energy, Electronics, Ecology and Ocean Development.

Mr P Venkatasubbiah, who held the dual charge of Minister of State of Home and Parliamentary Affairs, has been relieved of the latter portfolio.

Petroleum Minister Shiv Shankar will be in charge of the Energy Ministry, but the Department of Coal has been detached from the latter and added to the Ministry of Industry, Steel and Mines. Besides Industry, Mr N D Tiwari will be in charge of Steel and Mines.

Minister of State for the Coal Department G S Mishra has been shifted to the Ministry of Industry, Steel, Mines and Coal.

Mr H K L Bhagat, who has staged a come back to the Ministry of Works and Housing, will in addition, look after Parliamentary Affairs.

Mr Bhishma Narain Singh continues to be in charge of the Ministries of Works and Housing and Parliamentary Affairs at the Cabinet level.

Significance of Changes

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] A significant feature of Thursday's Cabinet reshuffle is the induction of several members of the younger generation into the Council of Ministers, some of whom have been NSUI and Yough Congress-I activists and leaders.

They include Mr Ramachandra Rath (Orissa), Mr Ashok Gehlot (Rajasthan), Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad (Jammu and Kashmir), Mr Digvijay Singh (Gujarat) and Mr Veerbhadra Singh (Himachal).

Mr Rath and Mr Azad have been front-rank leaders of the Youth Congress-I and were once close colleagues of the late Mr Sanjay Gandhi. Mr Gehlot was a student leader before he entered the Lok Sabha in 1980.

With Asiad only two months away, sports has attracted special attention. Hitherto looked after by the Education Minister, the subject has been separated and entrusted to Minister of State for Supply, Mr Buta Singh, who already heads the Asian Games Committee.

The Capital also gets a weighty representation in the new Minister of State, Mr H K L Bhagat, who has returned to his earlier charge in the Ministry of Works and Housing, with Parliamentary Affairs added on. He has been heading the Delhi Pradesh Congress since 1978.

Mr Digvijay Singh, the son of the former ruler of the princely state of Wankaner, in Gujarat, has obviously been taken into the Ministry as a Deputy Minister in recognition of his work in the field of ecology. He was the moving spirit behind formation of a forum of MPs for studying problems of environment. He had submitted a note to Mrs Gandhi sometime ago suggesting formation of a separate department of ecology under her charge.

Mr Veerbhadra Singh also comes from a princely family in Himachal Pradesh. He was the HPCC-I president during the emergency and was known to be close to Mr Sanjay Gandhi. Himachal Pradesh now has two representatives in the Government together with Mr Vikram Mahajan.

The Youth Congress-I leaders have been inducted into the Government not only to train the younger generation of party leadership in administration but also to remove the feeling among them, particularly those once close to Mr Sanjay Gandhi, that they have not been treated well since his death. The defection of two Lok Sabha members recently to the Sanjay Vishar Manch floated by Mrs Maneka Gandhi must have influenced the decision in their favour.

Structural Change

Another important feature of the reshuffle is structural change in the composition of various Ministries. The Ministry of Energy has been bifurcated with the separation of Department of Coal. While the Ministry of Energy has been clubbed with Petroleum, the Coal Department has been placed under the Steel and Mines Ministry in the charge of a Minister of State with Mr N D Tiwari, who holds the charge of the Industry Ministry also, as the Cabinet Minister.

Obviously, the Industry and the Steel and Mines Ministries have been allowed to go together because with the placing of the jute and textile industries under the Commerce Ministry, there is really not much work left in the

Industry Ministry, whose sole job now is to deal with issuing of licences and the DGTD.

The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation has also been bifurcated and the two departments have been placed under independent charge of two Ministers of State.

The departments of power and non-conventional sources of energy have been placed under the Petroleum Minister. The department has been entrusted to Mr C P N Singh, who will work as Minister of State and will hold additional departments of electronics, ecology, ocean development and science and technology.

Another entrant, Mr N K P Salve, a qualified chartered accountant is a taxation expert. He has been associated with the Indian National Congress for two generations.

Mr Salve participated in the freedom movement and was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1967 and 1972. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in 1978.

Mr Pattabhi Rama Rao, a senior Andhra Cong-I leader with vast administrative experience and former Chairman of the Estimates Committee, is another important new entrant to the Council of Ministers. He will take the place of Mr S S Sisodia, Minister of State for Finance.

He is an influential leader of the coastal region of Andhra from where the cine star and founder of the Telugu Desam, Mr N T Rama Rao, draws support.

List of Ministers

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Following is the list of the new Council of Ministers:

Cabinet

Mrs Indira Gandhi--Atomic Energy, Space, Science and Technology.

Mr Pranab Mukherjee--Finance.

Mr P V Narasimha Rao--External Affairs.

Mr R Venkataraman--Defence.

Mr P C Sethi--Home.

Mr C M Stephen--Transport and Shipping.

Mr S B Chavan--Planning.

Mr A B A Ghani Khan Chaudhari--Railways.

Mr Bhishma Narain Singh--Works, Housing and Parliamentary Affairs.

Mr Shiv Shankar--Energy and Petroleum.

Mr Kedar Pandey--Irrigation.

Mr Vasant Sathe--Chemical and Fertilizers.

Mr N D Tiwari--Industry, Steel and Mines.

Mr A P Sharma--Communications.

Mr B Shankaranand--Health and Family Welfare.

Mr Veerendra Patil--Labour.

Rao Birendra Singh--Agriculture.

Mr Jagannath Kaushal--Law, Justice and Company Affairs.

Ministers of State (Independent charge)

Mr Shiv Raj Patil--Commerce.

Mr Bhagwat Jha Azad--Civil Aviation and Civil Supplies.

Mr Buta Singh--Supplies and Sports.

Mrs Sheila Kaul--Education and Social Welfare.

Mr N K P Salve--Information and Broadcasting.

Mr Khursheed Alam Khan--Tourism.

Ministers of State

Mr A A Rahim--External Affairs.

Mr Pattabhi Rama Rao--Finance (to be sworn in).

Mr H K L Bhagat--Works, Housing and Parliamentary Affairs.

Mr Veer Bhadra Singh--Industry (to be sworn in).

Mr Gargi Shankar Mishra--Steel, Mines and Coal.

Mr Ramachandra Rath--Chemicals (to be sworn in).

Mr R V Swaminathan--Agriculture.

Mr Baleshwar Ram--Agriculture.

Mr N R Laskar--Home.

Mr P Venkatasubbiah--Home.

Mr Yogendra Makwana--Communications.

Mr C K Jaffer Sharief--Railways.

Mr C P N Singh--Conventional Energy Sources in the Ministry of Energy and Electronics.

Mr Sitaram Kesri--Shipping and Transport.

Mr Z A Ansari--Irrigation.

Mr Vikram Mahajan--Energy.

Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha--Industry.

Mr Dalbir Singh--Energy.

Deputy Ministers

Mr Ashok Gehlot--Tourism.

Mr Digvijay Sinh--Ecology.

Dr M S Sanjiva Rao--Department of Electronics.

Mr K P Singh Deo--Defence.

Mr Janardhan Poojary--Finance.

Mr Kalpanath Rai--Parliamentary Affairs.

Mr Arif Mohammad Khan--Information and Broadcasting.

Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad--Law (to be sworn in).

Mr Giridhar Gomango--Supply and Rehabilitation.

Mr Dharam Vir--Labour.

Mr Mallikarjun--Railways and Parliamentary Affairs.

Mr Mohammad Usman Arif--Agriculture and Civil Supplies.

Mr Vijay N Patil--Communications.

Mr P K Thungon--Education

Mr Brajmohan Mohanty--Works and Housing.

Miss Kamala Kumari--Agriculture.

Mr P A Sangma--Commerce.

CSO: 4220/7869

GANDHI RECONSTITUTES CONGRESS-I WORKING COMMITTEE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] Congress-I president Indira Gandhi reconstituted the party's working committee as well as the central parliamentary board on Thursday amid reports that Mr Rajiv Gandhi, MP, may be nominated as a general secretary.

The reconstitution of the two powerful bodies of the party high command took place shortly after the reshuffling of the Union Cabinet.

A notable feature of the reconstitution of CWC-I is the dropping of former Maharashtra Chief Minister A R Antulay from the working committee. Gujarat Chief Minister Madhavsingh Solanki and Mr Buta Singh, now holding independent charge of Sports in the Government, have also not been retained. Mr Zail Singh ceased to be a CWC-I member after becoming President.

The names of new general-secretaries will be announced later, AICC-I general-secretaries Vasant Rao Patil and G K Moopanar told newsmen.

The previous working committee and the parliamentary board were constituted on 13 June 1980.

The newly-inducted members of the working committee are: Defence Minister R Venkataraman, Health Minister B Shankaranand, Punjab Chief Minister Darbara Singh, Orissa Chief Minister J B Patnaik and Mr Meham Singh from Meghalaya.

Those included in the CPB-I are: Mr Venkataraman, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Mrs Maragatham Chandrashekhar as regular members. Hitherto, they were special invitees.

Mr Sitaram Kesri continues as treasurer.

The following are the members of the reconstituted Parliamentary Board: Mr Kamalapati Tripathi, Mr R Venkataraman, Mr P V Narasimha Rao, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, Maragatham Chandrashekhar, Mr Syed Mir Qasim and Mr A P Sharma.

The new working committee consists of the following: Mr Kamalapati Tripathi, Mr R Venkataraman, Mr P V Narasimha Rao, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, Maragatham Chandrashekhar, Mr Syed Mir Qasim, Dr S D Sharma, Mr B Shankaranand,

Mr R Gundu Rao, Mr Darbara Singh, Mr C M Stephen, Mr A P Sharma, Mr J B Patnaik, Mr Meham Singh and Mr Sitaram Kesri (treasurer).

The strength of the CPB-I now consists eight members, against five before, including Mrs Gandhi.

The reconstituted committee has 16 members, including Mrs Gandhi and party treasurer Sitaram Kesari. The old committee had 19 members, including the five general secretaries.

CSO: 4220/7869

SHIFTS IN CONGRESS-I STATE LEADERSHIPS CONTEMPLATED

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Sep 82 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Sept. 5.

After reshuffling the Central Cabinet and reconstituting the Congress (I) Parliamentary Board and Working Committee, the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, has been reviewing the political situation in some of the States in close consultation with her senior party colleagues.

At one stage she was giving serious thought to the suggestion of revamping the Cabinets in States riven by factionalism by providing equitable representation to various groups, if they could be prevailed upon to work together at least until the next elections.

Non-starter: But the idea proved a non-starter when the major Congress (I) group leaders in Maharashtra declined to pledge their loyalty to the Chief Minister, Mr. Babasaheb Bhosale, especially in the wake of the recent police revolt that shook the State. So the Prime Minister has been left with no choice except to think in terms of a change of leader at a politically opportune moment, as soon as she can make up her mind about a more promising successor who would be more acceptable to the party.

A similar consideration seems to be prevailing in regard to other States like Andhra Pradesh where the Congress (I) is faced with a parallel dilemma not knowing what to do to meet the N. T. Rama Rao phenomenon. After a prolonged discussion with Mr. Pranab Mukherjee a few days ago before he left for London, Mrs. Gandhi called Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao and Mr. R. Venkataraman today for talks on the Andhra situation.

The general impression in high Congress (I) circles here is that Mrs. Gandhi has to make up her mind in the next few days whether she wants the present Chief Minister, Mr. B. Venkatram, to continue in office and lead the party during the forthcoming Assembly elections or go in for a change to put a more dynamic personality in charge of the Congress (I) campaign.

The Prime Minister is reported to be rather concerned that any reverse in Andhra Pradesh would be misconstrued as a personal setback to her since she is still an MP from this State. She can, therefore, ill-afford to let the new NTR wave sweeping Andhra Pradesh have a free run through sheer default of the Congress (I), which is getting increasingly bogged down by its own factionalism.

The Central leadership has been taking an equally critical look at Karnataka affairs because of the feeling that if the Congress (I) does not fare well in the two southern States in the Assembly elections, it would cramp Mrs. Gandhi's style and restrict her freedom of choice in opting for an early parliamentary poll before the completion of the present five-year term.

There will be some indication in the next few days of how she proposes to tackle the Andhra and Maharashtra situations even if she is not yet ready to go in for sweeping changes in other States. It is not her practice to take action in more than one State at a time, which means that, if she decides to change at least one Chief Minister soon, the others on the list will get a temporary reprieve.

Vacillation: But the continued vacillation over the changes that she has already decided upon at least in principle, followed by her astonishing support for much more controversial Chief Ministers whose very continuance is doing utmost damage to the ruling party's interests, is perplexing her own Congress (I) colleagues. They see no rationale behind her strong support for Mr. Jagannath Mishra, for example, while she is inclined to change less controversial Chief Ministers elsewhere.

Meanwhile, word is going round party circles that there will be another Cabinet reshuffle-cum-expansion, perhaps after the next Parliament session. It will help to keep the disgruntled aspirants under check, apart from jettisoning the damocles sword hang over the heads of those not affected by the recent reshuffle.

GANDHI 31 AUG SPEECH TO TRIBAL GATHERING REPORTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Sep 82 p 10

[Text] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said on Tuesday that the Government was striving hard to ameliorate the lot of the poor through a number of socio-economic programmes but their benefits were not reaching every individual owing to population explosion.

Also, the problems being gigantic and the resources being limited, the pace of progress was slow, she said.

Addressing a large gathering of denotified tribes at the AICC-I lawns, Mrs Gandhi said that their problems could be solved only gradually by involving them in developmental activities.

She asked her partymen to educate the people on the programmes meant for them and ensure their active participation in the new 20-point and other welfare programmes with the ultimate objective of ushering in a socialistic pattern of society.

The Prime Minister said Government's schemes to remove poverty had certainly yielded results with the help of sound agricultural and industrial infrastructure. As many as 30 lakh families below the poverty line were getting relief under a programme under which 600 persons were picked up and assisted.

In the fifth Plan, lakhs of families had been brought up above the poverty line but the benefits were not discernible--again due to the galloping population.

Nutrition was being provided to children under the mid-day meal programme but the continued rise in population came in the way of taking it to more children. 'The whole things boil down to one thing--the need to check population explosion,' Mrs Gandhi said.

Referring to the demand of the people of the denotified tribes for recognition as Scheduled Tribes, the Prime Minister said there were some practical difficulties. For instance, while some of such people were recognised as Scheduled Castes in one State, they were regarded differently in others. Giving them the status of Scheduled Tribes would require a constitutional

amendment. Whenever such issues came up in Parliament, they led to controversies and long debates without any concrete results, Mrs Gandhi said.

Earlier, AICC-I Vimukt Jaties Committee convener Boota Ram Azad recounted the travails of this community and pleaded that these denotified tribes be included in the Scheduled Tribes.

Congress-I, MP, G Swamy Naik submitted a memorandum to Mrs Gandhi demanding among other things reservation for his community in elected institutions and armed forces. He also demanded allotment of five acres of agricultural land to each Vimukt Jati family.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, MP, had also addressed the gathering in the afternoon.

CSO: 4220/7863

INDIA

NEW DELHI PLANS TO HOST NONALIGNED SUMMIT TOLD

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 1 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 31.--The stage has been formally set for New Delhi to host the seventh summit of the nonaligned Heads of Government, Baghdad having withdrawn from the scene and Cuba, the current chairman of the summit, having informed Heads of Government of a consensus on the Indian capital as the next summit venue.

Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban Head of Government, has informed member-States that a consensus had evolved on India as the venue of the summit. Now India, as the host country, has to communicate with the member-States concerned to fix a date sometime in February next year.

Mrs Gandhi, who had indicated during her recent visit to Mauritius that she was already in touch with Heads of Government on the question of New Delhi as the possible venue, must now give the green signal for finalization of arrangements for this major conference which will attract at least 97 Heads of Government, besides representatives of several international organizations, including possibly the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Heads of other allied U.N. agencies.

Much ground work has, as a matter of fact, already gone into the organization of the conference. After President Saddam Hussein made it known that he would like New Delhi to be the seventh summit venue it was generally accepted that India would be asked to play host.

Simultaneously, a cell in the Foreign Office headed by the Secretary in the Ministry, Mr Natwar Singh, has already been busy making arrangements for another major international conference to be held here in November next year--the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference. It is understandable that this cell and the one to organize the summit have been asked to coordinate their functioning.

Mrs Gandhi is expected to send senior Foreign Office officials as her special emissaries to major nonaligned capitals during the next few days, to work out the details of the agenda of the summit. Among the senior officials to be assigned to these capitals are Mr Romesh Bhandari, Secretary, Economic Relations; Mr K. S. Bajpai, Secretary East; Mr J. S. Heremath

and Mr S. K. Singh, Additional Secretaries. Some other senior officials may also be involved in the exercise which can be of crucial importance to the ultimate outcome of the conference and the declaration issued at the conclusion of each summit.

Cuba has virtually indicated that there is no consensus on the two conditions imposed by Iraq while agreeing to shift the venue of the seventh summit from Baghdad to New Delhi, namely, the preparatory Foreign Ministers' conference to be held in Baghdad this week and for Baghdad to be the venue of the eighth conference. This virtually amounts to member-States having decided to go by the consensus already indicated by Dr Castro about New Delhi as the venue of the seventh summit leaving the choice of the eighth summit to the Heads of Government themselves when they meet in the Indian capital early next year.

The Government has established a separate cell at Vigyan Bhavan, under the general supervision of Mr Natwar Singh to make suitable arrangements for the conference. Representatives of the Home, Communications and other Ministries have been coopted on the cell for making arrangement. With so many Heads of Government arriving at the capital at the same time, the Security arrangements will have to be tightened. The fact that Asiad is being held in November this year in the capital has helped provide a part of the necessary paraphernalia. This, with suitable modifications, could come in handy for the summit.

According to UNI, the Iraqi President, Mr Saddam Hussein's special envoy, Mr Hamid Alwan, today met the Prime Minister and delivered a message from Mr Hussein relating to the holding of the nonaligned summit.

Mr Alwan later described his half-hour talks with Mrs Gandhi as "very fruitful". He said he was satisfied with his discussions with Mrs Gandhi and the External Affairs Minister, Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao.

Before leaving for Baghdad after his one-day visit here, Mr Alwan told the Iraqi news agency that he had explained to Mrs Gandhi his Government's decision to drop its claim to hosting a non-aligned Ministerial meeting next month "in the interest of unity and the future of the movement".

AP adds: Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said he does not expect his new Government of Democratic Kampuchea to be recognized by the coming non-aligned summit but hopes to deliver a speech.

"It would be a great success if I can make a speech and make the case for Democratic Kampuchea," said Prince Sihanouk, a co-founder of the non-aligned movement.

CSO: 4220/7861

INDIA

FOREIGN MINISTER RAO ESSENTIAL TO SUMMIT SUCCESS

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Sep 82 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 1.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who is still deliberating over the impending Cabinet reshuffle-cum-expansion, has indicated to her confidants that she would like Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao to continue as External Affairs Minister to cope with the leadership problems of the non-aligned community after the forthcoming summit conference in Delhi.

As host to this summit, it will be India's privilege to function as chairman of the nonaligned movement until the next one in 1986.

This will impose a heavy responsibility on the Prime Minister who has to depend to a considerable extent on the External Affairs Minister to maintain close contact with the leaders of the member countries for assessing and harnessing the consensus over various issues.

During the last 2-1/2 years Mr. Narasimha Rao has travelled extensively and attended almost every important non-aligned meeting which has enabled him to establish personal rapport with the leading personalities of the movement. He has earned their admiration and respect for his clarity of thought and firmness of purpose in dealing with many complex international issues.

Though the Prime Minister herself will be presiding over the Delhi summit, the main burden of dealing with the leadership problems during the three-year inter-summit interregnum will fall on the External Affairs Minister who has to practise the art of persuasion, and at times pressuring, with consummate skill to be able to carry the majority of member countries with India on most issues.

Separate division: As part of the preparatory work under way for the summit, Mr. Narasimha Rao is taking steps under Mrs. Gandhi's general guidance to set up a separate division in the External Affairs Ministry to prepare the necessary drafts and initiate follow-up action on the resolutions adopted on both political and economic issues. There will be a Delhi

declaration spelling out an action programme for the next three years to make the non-aligned movement more cohesive and effective in the rapidly changing world situation.

There is already an organisational committee headed by the Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr. Natwar Singh, to deal with the logistical aspects of the summit. The new conference division staffed by hand-picked officers of the Indian Foreign Service will be entrusted with the task of preparing the summit papers and providing the necessary liaison for follow-up action.

Leadership role: Though it is not India's desire to cast itself in a leadership role, the mantle will fall automatically on the Prime Minister when she is elected chairman of the summit, which entails the responsibility of leading the movement until the next summit in 1986.

The intention is to discharge this responsibility in a methodic manner by actively associating all important member countries with various initiatives as the community faces different challenges.

The inability of the non-aligned community to intervene effectively in ending the Iran-Iraq conflict, or initiating any timely steps to resolve problems like Kampuchea and Afghanistan, has been a painful reminder that the phenomenal increase in the membership of the movement has not led to a corresponding increase in its influence.

The Indian intention is to make a meaningful start both during and after the Delhi summit in giving a positive direction to the movement through timely initiatives backed by proper consultations.

It is for this purpose that Mrs. Gandhi does not want any change in the stewardship of the External Affairs Ministry at this crucial time. And if she felt it advisable to make known that she would like Mr. Narasimha Rao to continue in his present portfolio, it is seen as a measure of the confidence she continues to repose in him.

CSO: 4220/7867

INDIA

INSURGENCY IN NORTHEAST REPORTED UNDER CONTROL

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Sep 82 p 6

[Text] Calcutta, Sept. 1.

Despite a general fall in the level of insurgency in the North-Eastern States, some areas are still far from quiet. Naga extremists based in Burma are coming under pressure from the Burmese administration as well as the Indian Army.

Apart from 15 of their men having been arrested by the Burmese some days ago, one was wounded in an exchange of fire with an Indian Army convoy which they ambushed on way to this country. Three jawans died in the clash. The rebels lost two rifles and six magazines with 170 bullets but took away their wounded colleague while fleeing.

Elections in Nagaland are due on November 10. There is no possibility of the militant Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagaland participating. Informed sources confirmed that NSCN sympathisers could well support tacitly any one of the factions contesting the polls so as to gain a better foothold among the local population.

Mizo rebels shot dead: Only last night, troops were involved in a clash with Mizo National Front guerillas at Ukhrul, east of Manipur. Two extremists were captured alive while they were trying to infiltrate into India, but they tried to escape. Both were shot dead and a large quantity of arms was recovered. A few days ago near Parva close to Bangladesh, an Indian Army patrol ran into a group of extremists and a soldier was shot dead at point blank range.

Such incidents, however, have grown fewer of late and in general the law and order situation in most of North-East has held firm, knowledgeable sources say. The major problem still are the two bases inside Chittagong in Bangladesh, where the Mizo rebels get trained and help elements of the Tripura militants. A leader of the latter, Mr. Bejoy Wrangkhal, had crossed over to Bangladesh on his own to ask for more help from the outlawed MNF. The Bangladesh administration even provided electricity at these camps situated some distance from the international border.

These sources said that there was no evidence at present that the Chinese were helping the insurgents any longer. On the other hand, the MNF leader, Mr. Laldenga, now in the U.K., is known to be trying to reach Bangladesh.

Manipur situation better: The situation in Manipur has improved vastly following the establishment recently of 10 additional police stations in and around Imphal. Originally there were only two. The police have become more accustomed to patrolling and other duties and, as in Mizoram, are acquitting themselves creditably.

CSO: 4220/7867

CPI-M CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] The CPI-M Central Committee has warned one constituent of the ruling Left Front in West Bengal that such activities as echoing the slanders of the Congress-I against the CPI-M and accusing the latter of organising a campaign of political murders would not be conducive to consolidating and reinforcing the front.

This warning was embodied in the text of the communique released by CPI-M general secretary E M S Namboodiripad after the committee meeting held in the Capital from 27 to 30 August.

Asked to identify the front constituent which had come in for attack, Mr Namboodiripad initially was reluctant to do so. However, when CPI-M Politbureau member M Basavapunnaiah (also present at the press briefing) spelt out the name of the party concerned, Mr Namboodiripad replied: 'It must be the Forward Bloc'.

The communique said the committee expressed satisfaction that the problem of division of some of the big portfolios in West Bengal had for the present been solved and hoped that this would lead to the strengthening of the ruling front. However, it also noted that 'scientific reorganisation' of portfolios was yet to be done.

'What was of concern to the committee was that some of the parties of the Left Front were taking consensus to mean that anyone of them can veto even the most reasonable and necessary measures in their partisan interests, sacrificing the interests of the front and the people of the State as a whole'.

US Pressure

Reviewing the outcome of Mrs Gandhi's visit to the US, the committee said the US had exerted economic pressure on India to water down its foreign policy of non-alignment and loosen its ties with the USSR. Yet it was noteworthy that the 'Government of India did not succumb to this pressure, but stood by its friendly relations with the Soviet Union and reiterated its position on such issues as Kampuchea, Afghanistan, the Indian Ocean, new world economic order, etc'.

However, the committee felt that on the question of fuel for the Tarapur atomic power plant the 'pressure seems to have worked'. In the CPI-M's view, the agreement reached in the US was going back on India's declared positions. 'Specifically, the proposal for supply of fuel by a third party had been rejected less than a year ago. That position has now been reversed', it added.

Mr Namboodiripad disclosed that CPI-M leader P Ramamurti would hold a press conference on the issue on Thursday.

The committee expressed 'great satisfaction' over the country-wide resistance to the 'draconian' Bihar Press Bill intended to curb the freedom of the press, and noted:

'This resistance has been the most magnificent one in recent days to an authoritarian measure.' It congratulated journalists and other organisations for this movement and condemned the 'brutal, pre-planned lathi-charge' on Patna newsmen on 21 August. Calling for immediate withdrawal of the 'black bill' and urging democratic sections of the people to intensify the movement on that demand, it extended the CPI-M's full support to the protest strike called in the newspaper industry on 3 September.

It felt concerned over the activation of separatist and divisive forces. On the tripartite talks on Assam it reaffirmed the CPI-M's demand for elections to be held in the State only under conditions which could safeguard the rights of linguistic and religious minorities. This could be ensured through a democratic solution of the 'foreigners issue', it felt.

Govt. Policies Decried

While separatist forces were striking at national unity, the committee held that the Congress-I government was creating 'new problems' as the Information and Broadcasting Ministry's decision to have daily telecasts of 'national programmes' on regional centres of Doordarshan.

The CPI-M general secretary was asked if he apprehended another emergency in the near future. 'Left to herself', he said, 'Mrs Gandhi would have imposed another emergency. But everything is not left to her. Her capacity to do as she wished was limited under the circumstances', he held.

In reply to another question as to whether the CPI-M regarded the domestic policy of the Congress-I Government as 'reactionary', Mr Namboodiripad said: 'I refuse to be bound by some words of which you seem to be a slave.' Explaining that Mrs Gandhi's was a class policy in the interests of the ruling classes and against the working people, he added: 'We have not made any characterisation of the Government's foreign policy or its domestic policy being either progressive or reactionary.'

He said the 'very class interests' of those in power forced them to 'take up cudgels against imperialism' at times. He noted that 'on some issues of foreign policy the Indira Gandhi Government takes a correct stand', but hastened to explain that the CPI-M had never used the term 'progressive' in this context.

CSO: 4220/7868

CPI GENERAL SECRETARY MAKES STATEMENT ON LEFT UNITY

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] The Communist Party of India has strongly opposed any move to counterpose Left unity by Left-democratic unity, and stated that at the present stage of the revolution it was possible and necessary for the united Left to take the democratic secular sections of bourgeois parties along with it.

In a statement on Wednesday, CPI general-secretary C Rajeswara Rao joined issue with RSP general-secretary Tridib Choudhury on the question and observed that such a move "can only help the ruling Congress-I on the one hand and the extreme reactionary party, the BJP, on the other." The step would also "deprive the Left of the support of its valuable democratic allies, actual and potential", he added.

Mr Rao took exception to Mr Choudhury's reported remark that the two Communist Parties were not in favour of a national forum of Left parties "perhaps because they were laying more stress on the unity of Left and democratic parties."

Quoting portion of the CPI's Varanasi Congress document, he explained: "Under the present day political conditions, Left unity alone can be an effective spearhead for building up and projecting a Left and democratic alternative before the country. Without a strong united Left, a Left and democratic alternative cannot emerge in our country. For democratic sections in the bourgeois parties to rally towards unity with the Left, the Left itself must be strong enough to inspire them and give them confidence."

He said the present stage of the revolution was anti-monopoly, anti-landlord and anti-imperialist and hence "it is first necessary to complete the democratic tasks of abolition of capitalist monopolies, landlordism and exploitation of the multi-national imperialism concerns, in order to take the country on to the path of socialism." Hence it was both possible and necessary to have secular, democratic bourgeois elements with the unified Left.

At a time when Mrs Gandhi and her party were losing mass influence because of the Government's anti-people, anti-democratic and pro-vested interest policies, a vacuum was being created and situation was getting out of

Mrs Gandhi's control. This, Mr Rao said, was sought to be filled up by the BJP, an extreme reactionary party, and its allies. "It is high time the Left and their democratic allies made common cause to lead the masses in their struggles and to project themselves as the national alternative to the Congress-I, for safeguarding people's interest, preserving parliamentary democracy and defending the security of our country and world peace," he added.

CSO: 4220/7868

FINANCE MINISTER SPEAKS AT COMMONWEALTH MEETING

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Sep 82 p 9

[Text]

LONDON, Aug. 31.

India today cautioned against attempts at altering the developmental role of the World Bank and stressed the need for preserving the independence of multilateral institutions.

Addressing the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' conference here, the Finance Minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, noted with concern the direction of current thinking on the Bank's role and voiced fears that its multilateral personality and temper were now being threatened.

In his keynote address, Mr. Mukherjee termed as disturbing the moves to align the Bank's policies and procedures as closely as possible with those of commercial banks and for a restrictive approach in its lending as also suggestions for stiffening its conditionality.

"It would indeed be a matter of great regret if cooperation with the Bank would come to mean a drastic narrowing of policy options for member countries," he warned.

U.K. action praised

Mr. Mukherjee said, it was obvious that for low income countries IDA was at the centre of strategy for multilateral assistance. But this programme had suffered most, with total IDA commitments in fiscal years amounting to only 9.4 billions against a programmed target of \$ 12 billions.

While appreciating the action taken by Britain and some other countries in releasing their full share in 1982 and 1983, he said it was unfortunate that the United States could not be persuaded to adhere to the international agreement on keeping the IDA-6 a three-year programme.

He suggested that in fiscal 1983 additional contributions, over and above pro rata shares, made by donor countries either directly into IDA or into special account, now under consideration, should be fully committed in its entirety.

Mr. Mukherjee welcomed indications of an emerging consensus that for 1984 donors would in general, contribute one-third of their total IDA-6 contributions.

However, in no sense should the contribution for 1984 be regarded as advance payments for the seventh replenishment. Secondly, the integrity and structure of IDA should be preserved in any temporary arrangements that might be devised.

Mr. Mukherjee called for a sizable increase in the scale of IDA replenishment in real terms and deprecated the pressures for reducing the size of IDA-7.

Argument rejected

He rejected the argument that "some countries can borrow commercially and can therefore do without concessional assistance." If the concessional element was removed from the debt profile, such countries would soon reach the limit of their borrowing capacity and would thereafter be locked into a situation of severe resource squeeze.

He urged that the fundamental problems of poverty alleviation and desperate situation in which low income oil importing countries found themselves should be the guiding principles in determining the size of IDA-7. He suggested a minimum level of \$20 billions.

Turning to the proposal to differentiate between countries in respect of terms and conditions for IDA credit on ground that a third window for softer lending would have greater appeal for donors, Mr. Mukherjee said, the whole basis for this proposal was misconceived.

Third window experiment, he recalled, had failed miserably in the past. Nothing had happened to warrant optimism for future.

On eligibility criteria for IDA assistance, he said it had stood the test of time and "substitution of vague and subjective criteria for established objective criteria for purpose of differentiation will cause irreparable damage to IDA."

Referring to the World Bank, Mr. Mukherjee said its present lending programme was disappointing and for the whole period of fiscal years 1982 to 1986 its lending was projected to remain constant in real terms. In fact, transfer of resources would decline, he said.

He termed as unrealistic and inadequate the lending programme of \$60 billions for the period between 1982 and 1986 and called for an upward revision of programme to allow at least a modest annual growth rate of five per cent in real terms.

Mr. Mukherjee regretted that no progress had been made in regard to a proposal for creation of an energy affiliate of World Bank till a separate institutional framework was created. An additionality of resources for increasing energy lending should be secured.

Warning against the co-financing with commercial banks being prescribed as "some sort of conditionality" for World Bank's lending, the Minister said that finance for development should be provided in accordance with

the needs and priorities of the member countries and on terms suitable to them.

Mr. Mukherjee recalled that a restrictive approach for lending by World Bank was being advocated and it was also being suggested that the Bank should stiffen its conditionality. This was based on the premise that only a particular model of growth should be promoted through bank assistance.

The world is too diverse and too complex for such simplistic approaches to work," he said, adding that it would be a matter of great regret if cooperation with the Bank would come to mean a drastic narrowing of policy options for the member countries. — PTI.

CSO: 4220/7862

PAPER REPORTS RESOLUTIONS OF BJP EXECUTIVE MEET

Resolution on International Situation

Madras THE HINDU in English 31 Aug 82 p 7

[Text]

BANGALORE, Aug. 31.

The national executive of the Bharatiya Janata Party has alleged that the conduct of the country's foreign policy had come to be centralised in the hands of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and the External Affairs Minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, was a mere Ministry spokesman.

The executive, which concluded its three-day deliberations on Monday, said the country's international relations had been reduced to the level of personal preferences and prejudices.

Releasing the committee's resolution on the "current international situation", Mr. J. P. Mathur, MP, pointed out that Mr. Narasimha Rao did not accompany Mrs. Gandhi on her trip to the U.S., but was made to reply on her behalf in Parliament. Mr. Narasimha Rao was evasive when asked if the Union Cabinet discussed what Mrs. Gandhi had agreed to with the U.S. authorities.

The BJP executive alleged that Mrs. Gandhi utilised the occasion of her visit to U.S. to play propagandist and partisan politics by making incorrect statements about the number of arrests during the Emergency. It regretted that she maintained silence while in the U.S. on questions like keeping the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. But she chose to raise the issue while in Mauritius, reflecting the ad hocism that had come to feature the country's foreign policy.

While in the U.S., she also soft-pedalled the question of Israeli atrocities in Lebanon and failed to carry conviction about India's stand on Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

Israeli action condemned: As for itself, the BJP executive "unequivocally" condemned Israel's action against the PLO. It was opposed to any attempt by Israel or any other country to establish hegemony over the region. The deteriorating situation in West Asia portended geostrategic changes which would affect the country's security. It was a measure of the total failure of the Government's West Asia policy that in the face of those changes, the country

stood paralysed and without any alternative policy.

Relations with Pakistan: Pleading for "positive and purposeful" steps to normalise relations with Pakistan, the executive said the Government's attitude had been marked by the concern for scoring debating points than by the needed vision. The crucial issue was not what had to come first — the Joint Commission, a no-war pact or a treaty of peace and friendship. The quest should be to achieve durable peace with Pakistan.

Talks with both Pakistan and China should be upgraded from the level of officials to that of Ministers. India should take up with Pakistan the question of exchange of nationals languishing in jails and revival of trade agreements.

On relations with China, it was time the Government accepted its responsibility by providing the necessary initiative at the Ministerial-level.

Reiterating the commitment of the BJP to improving and deepening bilateral relations with the country's neighbours, the executive dubbed as tardy the response of the Centre to the question of South Asian cooperation. India could convincingly espouse the cause of détente abroad only by actively working for it nearer home.

Tarapur fuel: The agreement on the Tarapur fuel supply was not in the country's interests. The issue had been rushed through against the advice of the Atomic Energy Commission. If supply by a third party was what India was after, why did it not choose that option independently or when first proposed in November 1981 by the U.S. itself, the executive asked. It was incomprehensible why India had kept the 1963 agreement alive.

Referring to the conduct of economic policy, the BJP national executive said in the face of industrial recession in India and abroad, the Government's reckless borrowing would

seriously jeopardise the country's future. International borrowings had assumed staggering proportions and the debt servicing ratio

was about 18 per cent. The Prime Minister's assertion of self-reliance was an affront to the people, the executive said.

Resolution on Economic Situation

Madras THE HINDU in English 31 Aug 82 p 10

[Text]

BANGALORE, Aug. 30.

The national executive of the Bharatiya Janata Party has accused the Centre of mispending the huge loan obtained from the International Monetary Fund on wasteful schemes.

The Committee said the IMF loan was being spent on construction of luxury hotels and large stadia for the Asian Games in Delhi. While essential projects were being starved of funds there seemed to be no shortage of money for five star hotels, colour television, the import of luxury cars for the Asiad and other non-essential items.

Stating that the Kuo oil deal was not an isolated case, the committee felt "the ruling clique" seemed more interested in pursuing deals which had the lure of kickbacks.

The resolution on the economic situation was released to the press by Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

Dr. Mahavir alleged that the Government was canalising imports and exports in such a way as to benefit those whom it favoured.

The executive said that the Government had no plan to tackle the "stagnation" afflicting the economy. The recession in industry had been caused by the lack of purchasing power among the people caused by inflation and the credit squeeze dictated by IMF.

The Government seemed to ignore the labour force in boosting productivity. Its insensitivity to the prolonged strike by the workers of the Bombay textile mills illustrated it. The committee said the liberalisation of imports had turned the country into a dumping ground for

foreign goods and this was pushing far away the ideal of self-reliance.

The executive criticised the Government for neglecting the agricultural sector. It alleged that under pressure from IMF the Government had discontinued the subsidies on fertilizers and pesticides.

The import of 2.5 million tonnes of wheat illustrated "the mismanagement" on the food front.

The Government had failed to check the price and ensure the proper distribution of essential commodities like vanaspathi, washing soap, atta and malda for which it provided the raw materials. It had also put up the administered prices of cement (from Rs. 24 per bag in January 1980 to Rs. 65 a bag to-day) controlled cloth (by 250 per cent) railway fares and freight rates.

6-point plan

The executive suggested the adoption of a six point programme to deal with "the economic ills facing the country." They were priority for programmes to tackle poverty in rural areas expansion of the public distribution system to cover the entire rural population, revival of programme like food for work and antyoda and the starting of a Rs. 500 crore fund to tackle poverty, tax incentives for generation of employment by industries, meeting credit requirements of small-scale and ancillary industries and appointment of an all party parliamentary committee to devise methods to end corruption and kickbacks in the economic field.

CSO: 4220/7860

INDIA

GANDHI LUCKNOW REMARKS ON BIHAR PRESS BILL REPORTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] September 1.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, said here tonight that her government would welcome suggestions for modifications in the Bihar press bill.

Speaking for the first time publicly on the controversial bill, which has evoked countrywide protest, the Prime Minister said she had not even studied the bill. She had referred it to the law department for its opinion.

Mrs. Gandhi, who was on a day's visit to Rae Bareilly and Amethi, addressed the U.P. Congress (I) and later a press conference, before returning to New Delhi.

Both at the PCC(I) meeting and at the press conference, she said her government would not be "cowed down" by the so-called agitation and noise over the Bihar bill. "Why was there no agitation when Tamil Nadu adopted such a bill"? she asked.

She said the legal opinion was that the Bihar bill was "softer" than the Tamil Nadu bill.

The Prime Minister at one stage had to tell newsmen to change the topic when she faced a fusillade of questions on the Bihar anti-press bill. Her opinion on the bill came just two days before the country's newspapers face a day's strike on the issue.

Mrs. Gandhi said she favoured the Press Council being given more powers to check what she called "rag journalism". She also suggested that the national press could make various suggestions for modifying the bill.

In her address to the PCC(I), she said she was not against changing such parts of the bill as were found offensive.

In a raised voice, she asked both her partymen earlier and newsmen later why no journalist ever tried to expose or censure such journals as indulged in character assassination. If the law did not permit anyone to murder any human being, the law should also not permit anyone to assassinate the character of any person, she told cheering partymen.

CSO: 4220/7865

OFFICIAL GIVES FACTS ON BIHAR PRESS BILL

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 82 p 5

[Statement issued by Director, Information and Public Relations, Bihar, under caption: "Bihar Press Bill; Perspective on the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code (Bihar Amendment) Bill 1982"]

[Text] The present controversy over the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code (Bihar Amendment) Bill 1982 has prevented a rational debate on the issue as also a proper appreciation of the Government's point of view. The Press, in anger, attributes the bill to the Government's determination to stop public exposure of corruption and other evils in the administration. In order to put the whole matter in perspective, as against highly partisan views miscalled debate, here are some FACTS and DEDUCTIONS flowing therefrom:--

Facts

*India has a Constitution drafted by men who were totally committed to democracy.

*The Constitution, which guarantees certain fundamental rights to citizens, also empowers the State to impose reasonable restrictions on these rights.

*The Constitution, which establishes beyond doubt the regime of rule of law, lays down the legislative competence of the Union and the State Legislatures.

*The Constitution provides for judicial review of laws enacted by legislatures.

*The States of Tamilnadu (1960 and 1981) and Orissa (1962) enacted laws amending the IPC and Cr.P.C. pertaining to printing, exhibition, circulation, possession and sale of grossly indecent or scurrilous matter intended for blackmail.

*The Rajya Sabha passed a similar Bill in 1978 which did not raise much clamour.

*The Bihar Legislature passed the Indian Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure (Bihar Amendment) Bill 1982 (which is pending assent of the President) on July 31 exactly on the lines of the Tamilnadu and Orissa amendments to the I.P.C. and Cr.P.C.

*The Orissa and Tamilnadu amendments remained on the Statute Book for more than two decades without being challenged by the public or the Press in any court of law till after the passage of the Bihar Amendments in July 1982.

*Certain aspects of the Tamilnadu Amendments have now been challenged in the Supreme Court. This is sub judice.

*There has been a hue and cry in the Press and some sections of the public led by opposition parties that the Bihar Amendments to the IPC and Cr.P.C. are violative of citizens' right to freedom of speech and expression.

*Abusive comments have been made in the Press alleging that the Bihar amendments are intended merely to shield corruption and inefficiency.

*Explanation 1, appended to Section 2 of the Bihar Bill, reads as follows:--

"For the purpose of this section, the word 'scurrilous' shall be deemed to include any matter which is likely to be injurious to morality or is calculated to injure any person:

Provided that it is not scurrilous to express in good faith anything whatever respecting the conduct of--

i) a public servant in the discharge of his public functions or respecting his character so far as his character appears in that conduct and no further; or

ii) any person touching any public question and respecting his character so far as his character appears in that conduct and no further.

*The Indian Press is privately-owned with powerful political, economic and socio-religious interests acting behind the facade of objective journalism.

*'Yellow Journalism' is not an imaginary but a real phenomenon in India. Even journalists have alleged interference by other journalists in proper performance of their duties. Corrupt practices have also been alleged by journalists (Arun Sinha's report from Bhubaneswar in the INDIAN EXPRESS of August 7, 1981, entitled "Many Black Sheep in Orissa Press").

*Citizens have a right to agitation against any public measure. The right to agitation, however, does not extend to violation of any existing law or abridgement of or interference with the rights of other citizens unconcerned with the agitation or preventing them from carrying on their business or preventing free movement in pursuit of their profession. The right of profession and movement is a right also guaranteed by the Constitution.

*'Bandhs' repeatedly organised by the opponents of the Bihar Amendment have interfered with the freedom of movement of citizens. In Patna town, agitators recently stopped public traffic for several hours on two or three occasions on the main road which also leads to the General Hospital serving the citizens.

Deductions

*If the Bihar legislature had erred or has exceeded its legislative competence in passing the Bill, the issue cannot and must not be settled in the streets. The proper, constitutional, and democratic way is to lay a challenge to the law, as and when it is placed on the statute book. As part of the Tamilnadu legislation is already under challenge before the Supreme Court, should not the agitators await its outcome?

*The absence of any protest, clamour or agitation when the Tamilnadu and Orissa enactments were passed and when the Rajya Sabha passed a similar Bill in 1978 must lead any impartial observer to the conclusion that the opponents of the Bihar Bill have adopted a discriminatory approach and have applied different standards. It is too much to believe that the enactment on the statute books of Tamilnadu and Orissa States and the passage of a similar Bill in the Rajya Sabha altogether escaped notice of those who are crusading against the Bihar Bill.

*The Bihar Legislature could legitimately work on the belief that the Bill could not and should not raise much controversy on account of its being not unprecedented.

*The fact that Tamilnadu and Orissa enactments were on the statute book for more than two decades could legitimately lead any legislator to the belief that the restrictions envisaged were within the meaning of the term "reasonable restrictions" as laid down in Article 19(2) of the Constitution.

*The Bihar legislation, being not unprecedented or original, the vigorous and determined partisan attempts to paint it as a 'sinister', 'mala fide' and 'black measure' are a calculated effort to whip up a hysteria against the Government of Bihar.

*As the proposed Bihar legislation fully allows exposure of the conduct of a public servant in the performance of his public duties, the argument that the Bill is intended to shield corruption is devoid of reason. Explanation 1 to section 2 of the Bill clearly defines what is 'scurrilous'.

*It is nobody's case that freedom of speech and expression does not exist in the States of Tamilnadu and Orissa. It is, therefore, illogical to conclude that enactment of the proposed Bihar legislation will put an end to freedom of speech and expression in Bihar.

*The right to agitate against any public measure is a right that must be respected but taking the agitation to the streets and interfering with the rights of other citizens or showing intolerance of the opposite view, is

not in the best tradition of a democratic society or sanctioned by our Constitution.

*If 'yellow journalism' exists, the State has a right to enact laws to restrain it and to eliminate it. The freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by the Constitution cannot be misconstrued as a licence to print or publish material which is scurrilous or defamatory.

*The debate on the so-called Bihar Press Bill has been full of misleading abuse; e.g. Bihar Government intends to shield corruption, Government will shield criminals but will imprison journalists etc. None of the learned opponents of the Bill among the leaders of the journalists have addressed themselves to the question whether or not yellow journalism exists and to what extent, whether or not scurrilous, obscene and defamatory writings are indulged in and to what extent and why the existing laws, for which adequacy has been claimed, have not been able to curb such writings or their growth. When one of the parties in a debate descends to abuse, the debate cannot be called democratic.

CSO: 4220/7869

PANEL TO REVIEW WORKING OF STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 1 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 31.--The Union Government has set up an 11-member committee to review the working of the Indian Statistical Institute in Calcutta.

Dr S. R. Sen, chairman of the International Food Policy Research Institute and former executive director of the World Bank, is the chairman of the committee which comprises both officials and nonofficials.

In addition to reviewing and evaluating the work done at the institute, the committee will also advise the Government on the following matters:

First, to what extent and in what manner the research activities of the institute should be continued or modified in areas other than development of statistical theory and techniques and their practical applications.

Second, what should be the liability of the Government to finance the activities of the institute and in what manner the institute should increase its own financial resources.

Three, whether and to what extent the consultancy work done by the institute, particularly in the fields of operational research and statistical quality control, should be operated on commercial (or self-financing) basis.

Fourth, whether in the light of the experience gained so far, any amendments to the ISI Act, 1959 or to its memorandum of association are necessary to facilitate the working of the institute.

Fifth, whether the audit of the accounts of the institute should be entrusted solely to the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India under Section 20 of the Comptroller and Auditor-General (Duties, Power and Conditions of Services) Act, 1971 by suitably amending the provisions of Section 6 of the ISI Act, 1959.

The Indian Statistical Institute is an autonomous scientific society registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961. The institute has been recognized as an institution of national importance through the ISI Act, 1959.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 9(1) of this Act, the Government is empowered to constitute a committee for reviewing the work done by the institute and the progress made by it. The first review committee was appointed in 1966, under the chairmanship of the late Professor Humayun Kabir, former Minister for Education.

CSO: 4220/7861.

INDIA

POSSIBILITIES OF COOPERATION WITH FRG IN SPACE NOTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Sep 82 p 3

[Text] Bonn, Aug. 31 (UNI)

Possibilities of Indo-German cooperation in making available the benefits of space technology to developing countries have emerged from the recent United Nations Conference on Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE) in Vienna, according to a senior official of the West German space agency.

Dr Wolfgang Hasenslever, vice chairman of the German Aerospace Research Establishment (DFVLR), told UNI here that such a proposal was discussed at a meeting of the representatives from 30 developing countries, including India, called by DFVLR during the conference.

The meeting considered India and West Germany as "intermediaries" between space technology and the development needs to Third World countries, he said.

DFVLR and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) which have been cooperating for the past twelve years "offered possibilities where we can be of help to them", Dr Hasenslever added.

Dr Hasenslever said contacts made in Vienna could be a starting point for greater cooperation in sharing the benefits of space technology with developing countries. "These contacts have to be further deepened and developed", he said.

The cooperation between India and West Germany in the field of space research which started in 1971 with DFVLR advising ISRO on testing and launching of rockets has now reached the level of first joint programme, Dr Hasenslever said.

The two countries are planning a joint experiment on a remote sensing satellite which is scheduled to be launched by an Indian launch vehicle during 1985-86. The satellite called "Meos" will be fabricated in the workshops of DFVLR and ISRO.

West Germany which has highly advanced space technology but is unable to conduct its own space experiments finds India as an excellent partner to cooperate with, Dr. Hasenslever said.

According to him, the Vienna conference showed a growing awareness among developing countries that space technology could help in a big way in solving their socio-economic problems.

CSO: 4220/7863

INDIA

INDIA, IRAN SIGN COOPERATION PACT IN TEHRAN

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 30 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 29.--India and Iran have signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in wide-ranging sectors, as well as to increase trade and industrial collaboration with each other, reports PTI.

The document was signed in Teheran on August 26 by the Union Commerce Minister, Mr Shivraj Patil, and the Iranian Minister for Commerce, Mr Habibollah Askar Guladi Mosalman.

During the discussions, the Iranian side expressed its desire to achieve self-reliance in the shortest possible time in the technology of manufacturing machines, so as to be able to make products to international standards.

The official team from India was led by the Additional Commerce Secretary, Mr C. Venkataraman, and included representatives from various Ministries and State Trading Corporation.

The Indian side appreciated Iran's desire to develop its own capabilities and offered to consider sharing its know-how on a mutually-agreed basis.

It was agreed that Iran would identify and intimate specific areas and items in which it would need technical know-how from India. It indicated tentatively areas such as development of water resources, manufacture of steel through reduction processes, agricultural machinery and implements, development of small-scale industry in the rural areas, and paper machinery.

In respect of consultancy services, both sides agreed to cooperate in the field of chemical, textile and cement (including asbestos) factories and for operation of existing units in Iran, if required.

India indicated that it would like to export to Iran buffalo boneless meat, rice, barley, maize, sugar, tea, eggs, leather, textiles and tobacco and its products.

In the field of industrial products, the Indian side indicated its ability to supply a wide range of items, including light engineering, consumer durables and heavy engineering equipment, raw materials and spares. The trading organizations of the two countries will negotiate and conclude the relevant contracts shortly.

CSO: 4220/7859

ANALYST DISCUSSES NEW PHASE IN INDO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 Sep 82 p 8

[Article by Inder Malhotra]

[Text] The main point about relations between this country and Japan is not that they have been close and friendly but that they could have been, indeed should have been, closer and friendlier. A frank recognition of this fact, combined with a determination to both widen and strengthen Indo-Japanese ties, must be reckoned to be the principal outcome of the recent efforts by both sides to take stock of their relationship.

A lot of this activity has gone on quietly and behind the scenes at various levels. Only such major events as Mrs. Gandhi's day-long stopover in Tokyo or the visit to New Delhi by the Japanese foreign minister, Dr. Yoshio Sakurauchi, have attracted the limelight.

Quite apart from their ancient ties of religion and culture, a conspicuous absence of any dispute between them in contemporary times and a clear complementarity of their economies, there are good reasons why India and Japan should have forged over the years stronger and more substantial links than they actually have. Interestingly, these reasons were eloquently set out by Dr. Sakurauchi during his talks in the Indian capital over the weekend. Free India, stepping on the world stage exactly two years after Japan's complete and unconditional surrender in the second world war, he handsomely acknowledged, had gone out of its way to befriend a defeated and then ostracised Japan.

For instance, Jawaharlal Nehru had insisted on signing a separate, bilateral peace treaty with Japan, rejecting the U.S.-sponsored San Francisco document that imposed on the hapless Japanese both war reparations and an obligation to give the U.S. military bases, including facilities for stockpiling nuclear weapons.

As it happened, the Japanese foreign minister, who is also President of the 80-year-old Japan-India association, landed in New Delhi on the 30th anniversary of the India-Japan peace treaty!

Again it was Mr. Nehru who enabled post-war Japan to step back into the Asian fold for the first time. This was at the first Asian games in New Delhi

in the early fifties. When Japan's desire to take part in the games became known there were vigorous protests from Indonesia and other South-East Asian countries. But Mr. Nehru's persuasive charm eventually prevailed and the rising sun went up, along with other Asian flags, at the national stadium in New Delhi.

Iron Ore Supply

In the meantime the Japanese had been deeply touched also by the dissenting judgement of Mr. Justice Radha Binod Pal in the war crimes trials in Tokyo.

And, to use Dr. Sakurauchi's words, Japan further appreciated India's "generosity" in providing it with raw materials, particularly iron ore, "which were indispensable to Japan's economic reconstruction".

But the logic of all these favourable factors, conducive to close cooperation between India and Japan, remains unfulfilled. The relationship between the two countries, each an Asian giant in its own way, has been thin and continues to be so. Today Japan's trade with any single ASEAN country far exceeds that with the Indian sub-continent as a whole. As for investment, the situation is even more bleak.

India accounts for no more than just one per cent of Japan's total exports or imports. And since the Indo-Japanese trade has been stagnant at \$2 billion while Japan's overall trade has been rising by leaps and bounds, it follows that, in real terms, India's position in Japanese economy has been declining. This, unfortunately, is true even of exports of iron ore which Japan has started buying in a big way from Australia and Brazil. In the fifties this country supplied Japan nearly a third of all the iron ore needed by the Japanese steel industry. By mid-sixties this proportion had fallen to a fifth and is now down to a mere 14 per cent.

All this cannot be without reason, and that reason is not far to seek. The Japanese doubtless worship economic and commercial success but they do so within a political and ideological framework into which not merely India but the entire South Asian region could not be fitted so far. In fact, the joke among Japan-watchers has been that Tokyo's interest in Asia somehow ends at Burma, as indeed it did before 1945.

Dr. Sakurauchi was absolutely frank in saying that Japan had deliberately stayed away from South Asia because of the disputes and conflicts within the region. And although he was extremely keen to signal a change in previous policy, his remarks, in both private and public, left no doubt that the ideological framework of Japanese policy remains unchanged.

U.S. Influence

In fact it is no exaggeration to say that Japan looks upon the Indian sub-continent largely as the U.S. and, in displaying hostility towards the Soviet Union, it tends to outdo both China and the Reagan administration. This may be due to Japan's dependence for its security on the U.S. and to its bitter

quarrel with Russia over the Soviet-occupied Kurile Islands. But it does introduce an element of distortion in Japanese policies towards this country.

For example, through most of his discussions in Delhi the Japanese foreign minister spoke of his country's relations with South Asia as a whole and only rarely spoke of India individually though every time he did so, he described it as a "major country of the region". And he stated repeatedly that Japan's interest in expanding its relations with South Asia was being facilitated by the serious efforts now in progress to improve India-Pakistan and India-China relations. He also welcomed signs of a "more balanced" relationship between India and two super powers, such as Mrs. Gandhi's visit to the United States.

Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao and Indian officials did explain to him that what seemed to him to be a change in the situation was, in fact, India's consistent policy. They reminded him that the initiative to send an ambassador to China and restore comprehensive links with Pakistan was taken by Mrs. Gandhi in 1976.

To report this is not to imply that this divergence of outlook created any real difficulty in agreeing either on the need for closer India-Japan relations or on the means of achieving them. But it is only fair that the existence of such a divergence should be recognised as a fact of life, just as Japan's East Asian neighbours have done in the case of Japanese attempts to rewrite the history of Japan's expansionist past.

At the end of it all, Dr. Sakurauchi was being entirely accurate when he declared that his negotiations with the Indian foreign minister had opened up a "new era of closer political and economic ties" between the two countries.

He was in fact amplifying the hopeful note struck after Mrs. Gandhi's talks with the Japanese prime minister, Mr. Zenko Suzuki, in Tokyo. At that time not only was the 33-billion-yen (Rs. 126-crore) credit to India announced but Japan declared that it would maintain, despite U.S. pressure to the contrary, its level of support to the IDA, the World Bank's soft-loan affiliate.

Trade Expansion

Although hard-headed Japanese businessmen are still very critical of this country's bureaucratic procedures and the hassles which any potential investor has to go through, Dr. Sakurauchi was appreciative of the steps taken by the Indian government to liberalise the economy. He also discerned a distinct improvement in the climate for investment in India.

Even before the Japanese foreign minister had left Tokyo a decision had been taken to increase India-Japan trade from \$2 billion a year to \$5 billion by 1987. Detailed steps are now being worked out to achieve this target.

The Maruti-Suzuki deal, under which 40,000 cars and 60,000 pick-up vans a year will eventually be manufactured, will undoubtedly mean substantial Japanese investment as well as transfer of technology. Another automobile project is as good as through. The DCM and Toyoto will jointly produce commercial vehicles, both light and heavy.

Further expansion of Japanese contribution in traditional areas like fertilisers is also on the cards while the idea of Indo-Japanese collaboration in setting up or executing projects in third countries, especially in South-East Asia, West Asia and Africa, has made more than considerable headway.

It is in the crucial fields of energy and electronics, however, that the scope for most fruitful cooperation exists. Japan is already building thermal and hydel power stations in India and it is also participating in [word illegible] exploration. The two countries can collaborate in future in fuel conservation and development of alternative sources of energy. Even more promising is the Japanese interest in offering its technology, to develop coalmining here.

In electronics India has lagged woefully behind during the last ten years. There is every possibility that Japan, now a world leader in lost electronics, will lend a helping hand to make up for the lost decade.

Altogether it would perhaps be unrealistic to expect spectacular results over a short period of time. But circumstances seem propitious for a sustained increase in the areas of cooperation between India and Japan.

CSO: 4220/7865

INDIA

INDO-PAKISTANI TRADE TALKS IN DELHI REPORTED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 2 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 1.--Sheikh Ishrat Ali, Adviser to the President of Pakistan on Business Coordination and Internal Trade, called on Mr Shivraj Patil, Minister for Commerce, here last night. They discussed the trading system in the two countries, development of agriculture and industry and other matters of mutual interest.

It was noted that the terms of trade of the developing countries, especially in respect of raw material and primary products, continued to remain adverse. Mr Patil explained to Mr Ali the steps that India was taking to boost exports.

Mr Ali explained to the Minister the internal marketing system in Pakistan. Mr Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, who was present at the meeting, explained India's preference for value-added exports, development of new markets, use of import and export policies to boost production and strengthen industrial infra-structure in the country.

The major exports to Pakistan from India have been iron ore, iron and steel products, wood and timber, bidi leaves, building material and machinery. The main imports from Pakistan have been naptha, furnace-oil, rock-salt and cotton.

CSO: 4220/7866

INDIA

USSR, OTHERS TO SUPPLY EQUIPMENT FOR STEEL PLANT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 2 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 1.--Nearly 80% of the equipment for the first phase of the 3.4 million-ton steel plant being erected at Visakhapatnam is expected to be supplied by Russia and other countries despite the proven capability of Indian enterprises to do the work.

The result is that nearly Rs 4,000 crores worth of orders for the Rs 5,000-crore plant, which is to be commissioned by 1986, will go outside the country, mostly to Russia which is providing just Rs 500 crores as aid for the project.

When the project was originally conceived, it was stated that 80% of the equipment would be obtained from indigenous sources and the rest from abroad: the roles are now being reversed.

There have been complaints on the cheque from the engineering industry, which is facing lack of demand and hoped for substantial orders from the Visakhapatnam plant since substantial Indian funds will be used to keep foreign units busy in place of indigenous public and private sector companies.

The Visakhapatnam project is being handled by the recently established Rashtriya Ispat Nigam, the board of which has no steel technologist or metallurgist. The Steel Authority of India, the holding company which has a well-developed technical wing, has no representation on the board of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam.

Curiously, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam has been exempted by the Government from following the usual procedure for import of capital goods and equipment. Thus, it is not required to advertise its requirements in India, nor does it need clearance from the chief controller of imports to float global tenders.

Indian companies have pointed out that such major projects as Bokaro and the modernization scheme of the Tata Iron and Steel Company are being carried out entirely on the basis of equipment supplied by local units which have also undertaken similar contracts abroad on a turn-key basis. There is thus no reason for turning to the Russians for most of the equipment for the Visakhapatnam project.

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam is said to be diverting orders to the Russians on a number of grounds, the main one being that it has a time to keep for commissioning the plant and this can be kept by obtaining equipment from the Soviet Union. The result is that the small part to be left to Indian companies is worth a nominal amount.

In seeking bids from Indian companies, the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam is said to be laying down specifications tailor-made for Russian equipment although the local equivalent is as good and often better. A major example of this is the order for four rolling mills worth about Rs 1,200 crores which is to go to the Soviet Union despite existing unutilized capacity for them in India.

The result, Indian companies have complained, is that they are being reduced to the status of subcontractors in their own country at a time when they are prime contractors in other countries.

Indian companies are also being asked to provide performance guarantees for items made by their foreign collaborators with the result that most of the orders are expected to go outside the country. Indian companies feel they can carry out most of the orders and only balancing equipment need be imported.

Since engineering units in the country at present face the problems of surplus capacity in many sectors, it had been hoped that massive orders from the Visakhapatnam project would help tackle the problem of unutilized capacity. If the present trend persists, it will be the problems of the Russian engineering that will be tackled instead.

CSO: 4220/7866

ESCAP SESSION OF JUTE-PRODUCING COUNTRIES OPENS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 1 Sep 82 p 16

[Text] Inaugurating the fifth inter-Governmental ESCAP session of jute-producing countries in Calcutta on Tuesday, Mr A. K. Dutt, Secretary, Department of Textiles, Union Government, felt that if the jute industry was to be saved from its uncertain future, joint efforts should be made by the producer countries to resolve the common problems affecting them. He expressed satisfaction at the fact that an immediate action programme had been taken up as a step towards such joint ventures under the auspices of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

He pointed out that keen competition from synthetic substitutes and recessionary conditions prevailing in the industrialized countries had resulted in rapid shrinkage in the jute goods market. The prices, in real terms, were now probably the lowest in the last two decades. Apart from the fall in demand and declining prices, the producer countries were faced with the problems of rising freight burden and increasing cost of production.

The yawning gap between the increasing cost of production and the dwindling sale realization was causing concern to all the producer countries. In India, market prices of raw jute had remained by and large unsatisfactory for the growers because of the inadequate buying support from the mills which were faced with serious liquidity problem as a result of unremunerative market prices of finished goods. Because of this unfavourable development and adverse weather conditions, raw jute production during the current year was expected to be substantially less. Under the circumstances, a joint strategy for marketing of jute and jute goods by the producer countries, he felt, might help them overcome the present difficult situation.

The chairman of the session, Mr A. K. Mukherji, joint secretary, Union Commerce Ministry, said that the meeting was important since the producer countries would meet the consuming countries in Geneva in September to hold decisive talks on the formation of the proposed international Jute Organization under the UNCTAD. The leader of the Indian delegation, Mr S. P. Mallik, Jute Commissioner, hoped that the meeting would help formulate a common strategy to safeguard the future of jute.

Mr S. A. M. S. Kibria, executive secretary of ESCAP, in a message to the session, said that the most crucial problem facing the producer countries

was payment of remunerative prices to jute growers. The ESCAP and FAO secretariats had prepared a plan, for study of remunerative price-levels in different countries. The plan would be discussed at the meeting.

The Calcutta session is being attended by two representatives from Bangladesh, two from Thailand, seven from Nepal, one from China and eight from India. Representatives of international bodies such as FAO, UNDP, UNIDO, ESCAP and ITC are also participating.

CSO: 4220/7861

INDIA

BRIEFS

PACT WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA--Moscow, Sept 5 (PTI)--India and Czechoslovakia have signed a joint protocol at the end of the 10th session in Prague of the Indo-Czechoslovak Committee for Economic Trade and Technical Cooperation. The protocol was signed by Commerce Minister Shiv Raj Patil and Czech foreign trade minister Bahumil Urban yesterday. The discussions have revealed possibilities of manufacturing in India heavy duty processing machines and textile and printing equipment under Czech licence, says Tass in a dispatch from Prague. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Sep 82 p 7]

MINISTERIAL CHANGES--New Delhi, Sept. 6. The Department of Coal has reverted to the Energy Ministry and will be under the charge of Mr. P. Shiv Shankar. At the recent reshuffle of the portfolios, the Department of Coal had been bifurcated from the Energy Ministry and attached to the Ministry of Steel and Mines under the charge of Mr. N. D. Tiwari. With today's reversion of the Coal Department to the Energy Ministry, Mr. G. S. Mishra will be Minister of State in the Ministry of Energy and not in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal. Some other marginal changes in the portfolios were also announced today. Ecology will not be a part of the charge of Mr. C. P. N. Singh, Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology, Electronics and non-conventional sources of energy. It will be looked after by Mr. Digvijay Singh, Deputy Minister. Mr. Kalpnath Rai, Deputy Minister in the Parliamentary Affairs Department, will have an additional charge--Industry. Mr. Mohammed Usman Arif, Deputy Minister, will now look after Civil Supplies only, shedding the charge of Agriculture. Mr. Giridhar Gomango will be Deputy Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Sep 82 p 9]

CSO: 4220/7871/7872

SIHANOUK RECEPTION IN REFUGEE CAMP VISITS DESCRIBED

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 15-21 Aug 82 pp 14-16

[Report: "Where To...? Following Sihanouk's News"]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk came to Thailand during the period 3-17 July in order to attend to duties involved in setting up the coalition government of the three Khmer groups, to regain their independence from Vietnam. This was an important event for the preceding month, not only in Thailand, which was involved in the Kampuchean question as a nation sharing a border, but it was also important in the region and world-wide. Many foreign news bureaus paid special reporters to report on this. "Sukanya" is a Thai reporter who had the opportunity to work with a French group filming the journey of Sihanouk from the first to the last day, along with other news bureaus. She learned some interesting things from that work, so they are relayed here in this special report to SU ANAKHOT.

And the people in the camps made preparations to receive Sihanouk as "lord of the land." Children and adults adorned in special clothing came to welcome him. There were dancers. For about 15 meters in front of the temple half-worn mats were spread for him to walk on. On them white bedsheets were secured tightly to form a long white sheet. Some were bright white; others were yellowed. The royal umbrella was prepared from ordinary trees with the umbrella made from inexpensive green cloth with sloppy, uneven edges.

Looking at the preparations laid at the royal feet and the royal umbrella, and at those who put up the umbrella in tight open shirts and loinclothes, milling around in all directions, makes one think about the painter who wanted to paint a beautiful picture and thought of the picture he wanted to paint, but was limited to using cheap colors. On the ripped length of cloth was, if it could be called a bank, a band with incomplete and damaged instruments.

When it looked as if it was going to rain and drops starting falling, the people in the camp rolled up the white cloth and mats. When the rain stopped they took them out and laid them out. This happened three times. They had to wait, taking care not to allow anyone else, especially reporters, to step on the white cloth of "Samdet U."

Just before Sihanouk arrived, it rained hard, causing the ground to turn to mud. Even though mats were laid under the white cloth, mud began to seep through the mats onto the white cloth. So the people in the camp had people stand and hold up the corners of the white cloth. When "Samdet U" came out, besieged by reporters, the white cloth gradually came down little by little for "Samdet U" to walk on. As soon as it was put down the shoes of reporters and television photographers and members of military force 80 in tight black suits ruthlessly stepped on it first.

The bouquet of flowers offered to Princess Monique was of Phaengphuai and Ban flowers that wouldn't wither that were gathered in the camp. They were packed in wrinkled paper to wrap cake, and later placed on a wooden tray for over five hours. The Phuangphuai flowers were wilted by the time they were presented. Princess Monique was dressed neatly in dark colors with no make-up, but she looked beautiful.

The whole atmosphere made me think of the uncertainty of the royal power of Sihanouk and Princess Monique, even though the royal subjects are still loyal, and what is to become of their land.

After a short ceremony in the temple, Sihanouk took some more time to walk around to the platform in front of the temple. The people cheered long and loudly with joy and for the freedom of Kampuchea.

Sihanouk gave a speech in Khmer lasting nearly an hour that was translated, obviously roughly, into English. Sihanouk praised and thanked Thailand over and over, repeating that even if the Khmer Rouge had harmed his Highness and Son Sann, in the present situation all the groups must put personal harm aside for the time being and act as patriots who must fight for the freedom of Kampuchea before anything else.

A Khmer reporter working for a Japanese news bureau was heard to say: "At first refugees were not very glad that Sihanouk was coming because they disagreed with his willingness to accept the Khmer Rouge, but when they heard Sihanouk they understood and were able to cheer for him." She continued: "Sihanouk spoke ill of the Khmer Rouge all along, so there was a feeling that they would have no political future, and that is why Sihanouk went to the Free Khmer group first. No one knew whether or not he would go to the Khmer Rouge."

She hints at her own preference for the Khmer Rouge when she goes on to say: "Even if the Khmer people get their land back, if they are governed in the style of Sihanouk and Son Sann, the nation will be back in trouble again."

This writer thought about the shopping trip to Daimaru by Princess Arunratsami, Sihanouk's daughter, that couldn't help the atmosphere of urgency in setting up a coalition government.

The people in Sihanouk's group with whom the writer had an opportunity to talk did not indicate whether they would abandon their positions in Paris or America to stand side by side with the other Khmer people without a homeland living along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Everyone knows that Son Sann's group are only businessmen. At present the writer does not understand how it is that many people believe in the "theory of the third force," having hope in Son Sann's Free Khmer.

That night the writer slept on the way back from Aranprathet to Bangkok, fatigued from carrying things and from the pushing and shoving of the crowds in the camp.

On the following day, Sihanouk passed through Nongprua on the way to Phumthamai, the Khmer Rouge zone, where he spent two nights. Son Sann spent one night to agree on the personnel and the principles in setting up the coalition government.

The writer passed through Nongprua two years ago on the way to the outskirts of Phumthamai with the World Red Cross and could really feel the iron discipline of the soldiers and nurses of the Khmer Rouge, seeing them forging iron and making wooden agricultural tools. But they even ate crisp-fried yellow bean cakes with tea. Little experiences like that make it seem that there is life once again after reading about the menus of the Khmer Rouge. Sihanouk enjoyed it too. This was the most stable military base of all three groups.

Then, at 10:00 sharp on 12 July, Sihanouk announced the coalition government to members of the news media at the Erawan Hotel.

After revealing the coalition government, which would respect the wishes of nations who could give aid to any one, two or all three parties, Sihanouk opened the floor to questions.

The first question from a Thai reporter concerned Temple Hill and whether or not he thought there could be new negotiations. Sihanouk was able to handle that and other questions, which he answered loudly in English with a Cambodian and French accent. Throughout Sihanouk brought in Shakespeare and Shakespeares literature to bemoan the fate of the Kampuchean people. For example: "Whether to be eaten up by Vietnam or to be eaten by Khmers ourselves, that is the question" and "As Khmers we tend to prefer to be eaten by Khmers ourselves." Or, "If Shakespeare were still alive he would probably have wanted to write about the sad fate of the Kampuchean people." These were only minor details that made us feel that Sihanouk was a man who spoke with great wit. For the period of more than one hour that Sihanouk spoke he was continuously entertaining and informative.

This caused the writer to be struck suddenly by the fact that the Thai questions were generally involved with Temple Hill or that Cambodia would turn on Thailand, who helped her, like a cobra, just these two topics. The writer feels that we thus tend to see the Kampuchean and Indochinese

question at present only from the viewpoint of old events. This writer feels that progress in the game of politics and diplomacy is a result of consistency from start to finish, anticipation that this or that must be done in the far future, whether or not an enemy must become an ally (temporarily or how deeply, I don't know), as America with China, or the Khmer Rouge in a group with Free Khmer and the Moulinaka Khmers. The Thai government, with king as chief and a policy of suppressing Communists, still recognizes the name and government of Democratic Kampuchea, which is the trademark of the Khmer Rouge and is also the name recognized internationally, especially in the United Nations, where the coalition government of the three groups is still under the name of Democratic Kampuchea.

The day after the news conference, the 14th, Sihanouk visited the Moulinaka Khmers, passing through Surin Province. It wasn't until the afternoon of the 13th that it was known that Sihanouk was definitely going to Surin, when someone came and told the news people that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had a list of names of reporters who were selected and that names would be checked at the car leaving the ministry at 5:00 on the 13th. When the time came names were not checked, and up to now the writer still doesn't understand the reason--whether it was Sihanouk's own decision or someone else's--for the visit to the Moulinaka Khmers, who were Sihanouk's last source of support, and why he went and returned in one day. There were reports that afterwards Sihanouk went to relax at a beach. The writer was dismayed and wondered why Sihanouk didn't spend one night with the people who supported him and who received him warmly. There was soda, cigarettes, and big piles of fruit, piled up among the dry and withered faces of the Moulinaka Khmer people.

No one knows how much more traveling Sihanouk did, but he was no longer in the center of world news after those two days in Thailand, because the Middle East news seemed to become more important than that of the Indochinese region. The writer also wonders if the last round of world soccer in Spain were still going on while Sihanouk was in Thailand, how would the newspapers have divided the news stories?

When the Falklands war was cooking, world soccer was quietly able to top the news.

What do you want from human reasoning?

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CSO: 4207/149

JAPANESE AID TO KHMER REBELS REPORTED

Bangkok PHYA KHRUT in Thai 19 Aug 82 p 3

["Urgent Special Report, Events on the Thai-Khmer Border Today" by Surin Maisikrot: "Japan Gives Aid to Khmers to Build Army"]

[Text] ASIA TIMES here has been aid to Khmer patriots to save their country. We speak especially from the point of view of politics and diplomacy.

Various countries who support Cambodia in the United Nations or other assemblies of international organizations do so politically and diplomatically.

For humanitarian material aid, food, drugs, and clothing, we mention international organizations; and for military aid we mention China.

In truth there is a group of private individuals in another country that should be mentioned, Japan, who have given humanitarian aid to the Khmer people, in a way that is consistent with reality.

On 3-4 August, 1982, I met with a group of about 30 Japanese who had just returned from the Khmers after spending two nights with them.

Those people came from various walks of life. They included media people, businessmen, foremen, and teachers of all types. They came under the name of the "Organizing Committee of Groups Concerned with Kampuchea." A meeting was organized in Bangkok on 31 July to 1 August.

This committee met with other such committees from various countries of the world on the Kampuchean question, 1) to bring interest in the Kampuchean question to the world, and 2) to reflect on political trends that can be brought to bear upon the Kampuchean question. No governments were involved in the meeting, and they even found their own funding.

The committee has a clear stand. They oppose the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia and want the Kampuchean people to be free to choose their own government after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

After the meeting in Bangkok, the Japanese committee had taken the opportunity to visit the Khmer people under the jurisdiction of the Khmer Rouge, and they didn't go empty-handed. They took aid to the Khmer people.

Mr Akinobu Chintani, secretary of the committee, told me that they took drugs, clocks, and radios to those Khmer people.

The drugs were purchased in Thailand. The clocks and radios were brought from Japan.

This is the second year in which this group of Japanese brought things to distribute among the Khmer people under Khmer Rouge rule, and they will do it every year or several times a year, as long as it is possible.

In addition, last year they brought seeds, including corn, rice and watermelon, for these Khmer people to plant.

"The important thing we must do now is to give the forces of the three factions the strength to fight the Vietnamese troops," Mr Chintani said.

This view is certainly consistent with the latest facts, because if the Khmer forces have plentiful food, strong, healthy soldiers and weapons, they could probably wipe out the Vietnamese soldiers more quickly.

"As long as those Cambodians can't destroy the Vietnamese army decisively, they are not likely to withdraw from Kampuchea," Mr Chintani continued.

Yes. Do whatever you want, but if you decide to help the three Khmer factions against Vietnamese, you must consider this point of truth.

9937

CS0: 4207/150

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S.-ASEAN RELATIONS, CITES INDONESIA SPLIT

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 11 Aug 82 p 2

['Talking Together' Column: "U.S.-Indonesia and ASEAN"]

[Text] A change in the ideology or strategy of the U.S. in any region reflects a crisis in the performance of military, political, and diplomatic leaders of the US. [This] occurred in the late 60's and 70's. During the crisis the U.S. strategic, military, and political leaders forced the White House to review all of the detailed [accounts] that were the basis of U.S. political policy in Asia.

U.S. foreign policy considered Southeast Asia a key for the control of the Pacific area.

In this regard let's look at the example of General Taylor, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff of the US, and the former Secretary of Defense McNamara, who emphasized that the aim of the economic, political, and military policy of the US in Southeast Asia cannot be to implement each aspect at different times. All three aspects must be carried out at the same time. This must be the broad scale plan of the US concerning this area.

In the ever-expanding struggle by the Asian People for national liberation, the U.S. cannot implement its policy by means of various new-style political or military groups in Asia not connected with the U.S. by bilateral or multilateral agreements. This is why the US tries to be friendly with Indonesia, the largest country in Southeast Asia, with special interests.

The defeat of the U.S. in the Vietnam war and the defeat of its political aggression against the internal affairs of the Indochinese people that the US has carried on for over 20 years is a block to the acceleration of the relationship between the US and Indonesia. When Washington lost Indochina it was like losing its outpost in the Asian area. Therefore, the strategic role of Indonesia for [the US] is increased.

From the beginning U.S. authorities considered these countries part of the new strategy for new-style colonies in Asia and the Pacific. This conflicts with Indonesia's aims for independence and Jakarta's hopes to walk the road of the nonaligned nations and to have independent politics. It aims to have a suitable position in world politics.

In fact, the relationship between the US and Indonesia is in deep conflict. Jakarta's and Washington's views on political problems in Asia are never in agreement. The Indonesian leaders want to limit the relationship and not have a conflict with the rights and interests of Indonesia and does not want to hurt the nonaligned movement. This is why the positions of the US and Indonesia concerning important international matters have been in fundamental disagreement for a long time. These things might cause some changes in the outline and method of the relationship between Indonesia and the US. There have been some changes concerning the experts for the US and Indonesia and in the relationship between the US and the nonaligned nations.

In carrying out its strategic plan the US aims to implement it in Indonesia and in the ASEAN nations, but it does not mean to do it right away; it has to go through political allies: also Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, and Japan. The reason for this is to disguise the coercion.

At the end of the 70th annual conference [as published] the ASEAN nations became strategic nations for the US more than before. Even though the member nations of the group mentioned insisted that they did not want to take the side of any nation, including the US, Washington's work went on quite well. This is because some parties in the ASEAN nations (especially the military) that are interested in keeping the US in this area want economic and military aid from the US. With the involvement of Japan, Z. Brzezinski who at that time was the U.S. President's National Security Advisor stated in 1978 in New York that Washington wanted the bilateral relationships and "the noncommunist nations in Southeast Asia to be deeper and to intensify the relationship among the ASEAN nations even more."

The US tries to obligate these nations in this area economically and politically by pressing for the ASEAN nations in every way to establish a basis for a military group. In some regions in the ASEAN nations the US pressured them in every way, and it tried to use the victory of the people in Indochina to expand military cooperation among the ASEAN nations in response to the defeat of the U.S. in Vietnam.

Because [the US] wanted to force the ASEAN nations to be where Washington warlords want them, [the US] increased military aid to ASEAN, and planned to open U.S. military air bases in Hawaii and the Philippines via Thailand, Malasia, Singapore, and Indonesia.

The U.S. military presence in Southeast Asia has been regularly [maintained] by the seventh fleet in the Indian Ocean. This indicates that the US hopes to make ASEAN into a military group. The political propaganda of the West concerning the problem in this area emphasized that [they] should keep the U.S. ["offer"] concerning Southeast Asia by using the "bridge-connection theory." With help from the US the ASEAN nations seek to engage in military attacks on Vietnam and many other nations in Indochina by insisting that there will be a threat to the security of the ASEAN nations following the loss of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary group.

9884

CSO: 4206/77

GEN SISAVAT KEOBOUNPHAN AWARDS MEDALS TO PSS

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 16 Aug 82 pp 1, 2, 3

[Article: "Ministry of Interior, Veterans, and Social Affairs Awards Medals and Commendations to Those with Outstanding Work"]

[Text] A ceremony to award medals and commendations to cadres, combatants, and all units in the Public Security Service throughout the Interior Ministry was held on the afternoon of 13 August at the Interior Ministry.

The ceremony to award medals and commendations this time was aimed at praising and admiring those cadres, combatants, and all Public Security Service units who did outstanding work in participating in the national defense and construction work through 1981. In serving the Third Congress of the LPRP at the end of last April because of their participation in carrying out the actual work in those two time periods five regiments received the independence medal first class, 11 regiments and 16 comrades received the independence medal third class, 4 regiments and 15 comrades received the labor medal first class, 20 regiments and 164 comrades received the labor medal second class, 56 regiments and 493 comrades received the labor medal third class, 1755 comrades received labor medals, and 322 units and 2436 comrades received commendations from the government.

After awarding the medals and commendations General Sisavat Keobounphan, a member of the party central committee secretariat, Minister of Interior, Veterans, and Social Affairs and also chief of staff of the LPLA Supreme Command, as the ceremonial chairman gave a speech to all cadres and combatants who were obligated to attend [the ceremony]. He congratulated and wholeheartedly praised the cadres and combatants in ranking the Public Security Service's achievement in maintaining peace and security through 1981, as well as in maintaining security at the Third Congress of the Party.

General Sisavat Keobounphan said that the medals and commendation awards today was an important sign for the growth and expansion of our military and Public Security Service that have been through difficulties and confusion from the days of fighting to liberate the nation until the period of the transformation and construction of socialism in order to support the good deeds befitting the trust of our party, government, and the people. He asked all cadres and combatants to raise high their revolutionary essence, to be aware and alert concerning the enemies' tricks, to be ready to fight against their destructive activities, and to struggle together to carry out and make ownership of the Third Congress of the party a reality.

LABOR UNION ORGANIZATION, INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY IN CHAMPASSAK NOTED

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 13 Aug 82 p 2

[Article by Champamai: "Labor Union Federation Organization in Champassak Province"]

[Excerpt] The Champassak Province Labor Union Federation is an important organization and a base for the transformation and construction of the nation to advance to socialism. This organization is a bridge connecting the party and the working people.

In 1981 this organization has been expanded fairly well in ten towns subordinate to the province as well as in other production bases. The numbers have increased up to now.

There are 2595 members in the whole province, 350 women, 41 [base units], 148 foundation units, and 156 labor union units. The new members of the labor union have increased to 21 members, 1 base unit, 5 foundation units, 24 labor union units subordinate to the province, and 10 cities and other production bases. These members and labor union units are the bases for factory and other production [units]. In the past they all determinedly enjoyed competing with each other in doing their work and were able to score many aspects of collective achievements. For example, in communications and transportation over a distance of 18,440 km they repaired 27 km of dirt road and 9 bridges 198 m long; they built one new bridge 15 m long, and repaired an abandoned road 147 m long, produced and transported 6546 cubic meters of crushed stone and gravel, cleared brush along the edge of the road for 575.989 km, cleaned drainage and got roads in shape over 525.246 km, packed down 173,122 cubic meters of road surface, transported 28,075,107 tons of goods, made 269 repairs on heavy and light vehicles, and built 3 modern rice mills and 4 paddy rice storage buildings, as well as 32 offices, houses, hospitals, and schools. As for trade, besides distributing goods in many different stores they also bought 9,036,309.81 kg of rice, and traded for 8,631,993.39 more kg. They bought 1532 tons of coffee and 91,092 kg of cardamom. Production of all provincial clothing factories was worth 4,426,612.24 kip. The ice factory produced 343,231 kg, the flour grinding factory produced 9139 kg, the textile factory produced 9822.60 meters of fabric, the brick factory produced 340,000 bricks, the handicraft factory produced 12,343 units, and 2592 spoons and ladles, the fish sauce factory produced 7400 [bottles], the soap factory produced 3441 kg of soap, and electricity production was

5,063,609 kWh. The running water [station] pumped 1,260,075 cubic meters of water from the Mekong River and sent 1,076,59 cubic meters of clean water to the city. They earned revenue and exceeded the plan by 2.8 [percent]. The outstanding problem in agriculture, forestry, and irrigation work was the cooperative issue. Up to the beginning of 1982 there were 428 co-op units all over the province. The average income of these co-op members was 400-584 kg of paddy rice per person. They felled 68,277 trees.

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CSO: 4206/80

EDITORIAL URGES STATE CONTROL OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS, USE OF PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 14 Aug 82 p 1

['Editorial': "Improve and Facilitate the Trade Network to Serve the People"]

[Text] Trading is an important branch in the expansion of the economy and production, and in the improvement of the standard of living for people of all nationalities. Thus, in war as well as in peace the party and our government are concerned and have made great efforts to expand the trade network from the [center] into the localities in order to respond to [the need for] indispensable tools in increasing production and everyday use household items for people of all nationalities.

As our country today carries out the government's first Five Year Plan, trading is an even more important [aspect] that has to be improved and expanded in order to press forward on the nations' construction, to distribute the products the people need, to sell and exchange what the people want, to export [goods] in order to import goods that are important to the economy and the standard of living. This is in order to press forward on the expansion of production and to participate in reorganizing and reallocating the work and to broaden and set up new occupations. Meanwhile, trading is also responsible for resisting the infiltration and intervention of market control by foreign capitalists, as well as reactionaries and expansionists.

The important thing that must be carried out immediately is that trading must struggle to grasp the primary sources of goods, such as the supplies and export goods that are great forces, e.g., wood products, coffee, cardamom, and other forest products. Imported goods are used in construction and in pressing forward production of the people. Trading must firmly grasp wholesale work and widely expand the government's trade network into all districts. [It must] expand the marketing co-ops into villages and must use private businessmen to buy and sell from the people, to build up rural markets in places that meet the requirements, widely expand the service network as in different large cities and in provincial and district municipal areas in order to create good morale in our society, and to fulfill equally the needs of the working masses.

All these are important in trade affairs in the first Five Year Plan of the government, and it is the direct responsibility for all trade cadres to strive to achieve. However, the ability to accomplish this or not depends on cadres of all ranks and on government employees who carry out the work themselves.

Therefore, in improving and widely expanding the trade network, at the same time we must urgently pay attention to the importance of training and supporting cadres of all ranks and government employees in the trade sector [in terms of] both quantity and quality, especially directors of companies, chiefs of stores, chiefs of accounting, and salespersons who are good at [their] occupational subjects and are good and honest. This is because the trade work of the new regime whose aim is to serve production and raise the standard of living for the people will not succeed if cadres and government employees of all ranks [dealing] with this work have only knowledge in their occupations. It is most necessary to train them to have a good record of quality and morality and to be honest to the party and the government so that on this basis they will be highly responsible for their work, to ensure against damage to the government's property, and to be ready to go anywhere when the mountain people need their indispensable goods.

9884

CSO: 4206/80

CROPS COULD BE POOR IN VIENTIANE, MEASURES SUGGESTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 9 Aug 82 p 2

['Talking Together' Column by S. Thibthiangchan: "Agricultural Workers Move Urgently This Year"]

[Text] The purpose of the second six months' work for 1982 of the Municipal Administrative Committee of Vientiane Capital is that "agricultural work in the production season this year is a life-and-death problem that the entire party Army and people in the Vientiane Capital area must pay attention to."

The objective that was set to make agricultural work in Vientiane Capital an urgent work indicated that the party and government, especially the central committee and the provincial administrative committee of Vientiane Capital, has always been concerned with the people's living. Recently, since the beginning of the rainy season this year, our Vientiane Capital has been faced with drought since the beginning of the production season up to now. If the drought drags on we will be faced with a food supply problem. Thus, in the second six-month plan for Vientiane Capital agricultural production is considered an urgent and a life-and-death problem for us. We must decide to put all of our forces, vehicles, and energy into decreasing and ameliorating the harmful effects of the drought. All work units and all services must concentrate their efforts to help the bases.

This work plan indicates that in order to make the duty, policy, and plan become real and to urgently respond to the needs of the people, first of all [we] must prepare the primary sectors involved to be the ones who guide the actual work performance. For example, the Vientiane Capital agricultural service must cooperate with districts, and the districts must work together with the cantons which are the heads of production units by inspecting and checking on the drought area, provide timely remedies, and then guiding the people to solve the problem. Wherever it is no longer possible to engage in rice farming this must be replaced by growing other kinds of crops such as starchy secondary crops.

The irrigation service must bring together all existing means to serve single-mindedly in pumping water in the people's ricefields to serve primarily in agricultural co-ops, collective rice fields, [production solidarity units], and labor exchange units. The people must together use all means and tools to pump and drain water. The best way is to join together. An entire village can be

made into one labor exchange unit or labor solidarity unit, depending on the situation. Private, scattered work should be avoided because the outcome will not respond in time to the situation and the needs. The irrigation service must also pay attention to inspecting and control of things, especially machine pumps which we already have, encourage and lead the people to build irrigation ditches, check out the streams and creeks and swamp areas, and guide the people to build dams to keep the water for use for a long time. The areas requiring urgent work at the present time are the places that have not yet been planted which must mobilize and put all the energy of the people into completing the planting. If the rainy season drags on to the end of August [the irrigation service] must change its direction. This means that for the ricefields in a village that lacks irrigation [they] should unite themselves to [grow rice] in the low areas by using small machine pumps along with human labor for carrying in water from the wells and ponds, the Mekong River, etc. To help the village to plant 2-3 fields of rice depends on the energy and ability. Those places that have already been planted must be taken care of, such as weeding, and using fertilizers and insecticides, and wherever the lack of water can be solved by pumping in water and increasing production efficiency. Wherever there is an irrigation system the production must be at least 3 tons per hectare. For places that do not yet have adequate irrigation systems the production should be 2.5-3 tons per hectare.

At the same time as the production in the wet rice paddy season, the irrigation service must have a plan for dry rice season growing. [They] should survey the plan and make it three times a year, which would be even better. For wet paddy rice that has irrigation, it is expected to set up agricultural co-ops. Districts must have plans to do so; however, the areas that receive water from irrigation are the areas requiring urgent work to set up agricultural co-ops. There must be plans to support guiding cadres, and [cadres] must calculate to see in what month the harvest will be after planting the wet rice paddies. And when the harvesting is finished it must be ploughed and harrowed, and planted right after that. This means to sow rice seeds to get ready first. A farmer must find a space or keep a space for sowing rice seeds in advance. Whenever the harvest is done they should start replanting right at that time. This is to solve the dry condition and also to be a lesson we learn for the subsequent production periods, and to help us to be able to strive for the production plan and the expected figures for the 1982 produce of Vientiane Capital, in order to achieve the expected rice production figure of 105,000 tons.

Along with mobilization for rice growing, animal husbandry must be encouraged along with starchy secondary crop growing. All levels of the administrative authorities must be concerned with the standard of living of the people, and must be responsible for the people as well as the plan mentioned issued by Vientiane Capital. The plan indicates that all workers and work places must concentrate in helping the bases, especially in agriculture. Some local administrative authorities are still taking this matter lightly.

Most of them are still remote from the people, do not want to work together with the people, do not go to production bases, do not check the standard of living [of the people], and still cling to privilege and warlord ways. Now more than ever is the time for cadres and the local administrative authorities from the capital, districts, and on down to cantons to be more attentive and strict in

guidance, survey, and inspection. They must improve the drought condition and seasons for wet paddy rice and dry rice production, and must grow starchy crops and [work on] animal husbandry, encourage industrial production, handicrafts, and trade in order to raise and normalize the standard of living for the people, organize and control buying and selling food supplies, improve circulation and distribution in communications and transportation to be timely, encourage export work for orderly markets, and encourage education, public health, and culture to make this work relate to base construction and to unfailingly lead the bases to make progress.

Extra attention should be paid to national defense and peacekeeping, to have better control in city regulations, to decrease and get rid of the traces and leftovers of the old society such as superstition, fight against all the psychological propaganda of the enemies in time in order to bring the work plan as well as the work that was already set to reality in order to respond to the needs of the people of all nationalities, as well as to respond to the agricultural plan set by the capital, and to steadily raise the standard of living of the people, and to lead the people to prosperity and true happiness.

9884

CSO: 4206/77

OUDOMSAI REPAIR UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR ROADS TO PRC, PHONG SALY

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 16 Aug 82 p 2

[Article by Red Sappanwood Flower: "Company Repairs a Road in Oudomsai Province"]

[Excerpt] Company No 10 under the Ministry of Communications, Public Works, and Transportation is responsible for repairing broken and damaged roads from Oudomsai Province to the Chinese border and from Oudomsai Province to Khoua District, Phong Saly Province.

This company is located in Oudomsai Province and has just been newly set up. Its [personnel] are from different places such as the public works service from Oudomsai, Louang Namtha, and Phong Saly Provinces. The total is over 40 people, and has steam rollers, bulldozers, and a number of items of equipment necessary for road repair.

Even though it has just been newly set up and they are from different provinces, no cadres or workers in this company seem to mind or to be selective in their work. They have united themselves in ideology as well as in action. Together they improved and steadily built their unit's order, growth, and strength.

After it was organized they started to carry out its actual work, i.e., to immediately organize and assign themselves into groups stationing themselves along the collapsed and broken roads. There was a time when a collapsed road was tens of kilometers away from human habitation and the transportation materials and equipment for people from the unit could not make it in time. Their lives faced shortages. They had to live on vegetables and roots for many days. Some times they could not see people's houses for as long as 2-3 weeks. They determinedly struggled to repair that broken and wild section day and night. Even so, they were not a bit discouraged nor did they give in to the obstacles and difficulties. They worked hurriedly and cheerfully and with united thought that whatever [happened] they had to fulfill their responsibility in order to quickly finish the road they were repairing to ensure convenient usage throughout all seasons.

9884

CSO: 4206/80

BRIEFS

VIENTIANE FOOD CORPORATION PRODUCTION--In the first 6 months of 1982 our cadres and workers of the Vientiane Food Corporation determinedly competed with each other to score achievements in effectively serving society, as shown by the following actual work. They purchased a great deal of industrial and handicraft goods for distribution to cadres, workers, police, and the people in Vientiane Capital worth a total of over 17 million kip. Moreover, the company also produced different kinds of food supplies to serve society. This included over 160 tons of oxen, buffalo meat, and pork. It sold 383 live animals, slaughtered a total of 2,331 buffalo, 1,929 oxen, and 9,056 pigs, and took a total of over 1,000 tons of buffalo, oxen meat, and pork to distribute in the markets of four cities. In addition, it also produced many other food supplies, e.g., 6 tons of salted pork, 250 jars of pork fat, 94 tons of fermented fish, over 36,000 liters of fish sauce, over 1,900 jars of vinegar, over 2,000 liters of soy sauce, over 1,000 jars of "Siracha" hot sauce, 488,694 loaves of bread, over 23,000 sandwich bread loaves, and 98,552 bags of sweets and cakes. They bought a total of over 350 tons of fish from Tha Lat and Nong Teng to serve Vientiane Capital. They bought 559,905 eggs, over 1,300 kg of ducks, over 2,000 kilos of fryers, and 8 kg of sausages and spiced shredded pork. They purchased and exchanged 3,102 animals, and also distributed 41 tons of animal meat to serve cadres in 4 state shops. They distributed 9,785 bags of animal food concentrate. Meanwhile, cadres and workers of the company also competed with each other to score achievements in many other aspects which gave a great deal of good results.

[Text]. [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 12 Aug 82 p 1] 9884

CHAMPASSAK DISTRICT POPULATION, SECURITY, TRADE--Soukhouma is a district of approximately 120,800 square kilometers, and is located in the southernmost part of the country. Its border joins the southwest part of Kampuchea, its northwest border joins Thailand, and its northeast border joins the Mekong River. It consists altogether of 6 cantons and 59 villages, and its total population in 28,185 people. Based on the summary by the party committee, the administrative committee for this district, in the first six months of 1982 national defense and public security were improved [in terms of] knowledge and capability. The people understand clearly the national defense and public security tasks, which have become the real tasks of the masses. They are able to maintain peace in their localities very well. As for trading, they attentively buy and sell as normal and have revived the trading system between districts and cantons and collective stores and co-cop stores to respond fairly effectively to the needs for consumer products and construction and production materials for consumers. The trade network was expanded throughout different localities. There are as many as 29 stores throughout the district, including two additional stores during the first 6 months of 1982. [Excerpts] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 14 Aug 82 p 2] 9884

CLIMATE RIPE FOR MASS MOVEMENT AGAINST REGIME

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 2 Aug 82 p 11-12

[Commentary by Tajammul Hussain entitled, "The Time is Ripe for a Movement."]

[Text] God only knows if those who are in power are aware of the fact that the vacuum created in the country by the loss of democracy is encouraging certain tendencies among the people that will seriously endanger the nation's future. The measures that the authorities have taken to apply salve to the wounds may prolong their hold on power. Whether it is to strengthen the country and the nation, to divert the attention of the people or to move towards democracy, the authorities have even included civilians in the cabinet; and to attract a wider support for the cabinet they have established an advisory council composed of individuals from various walks of life. To determine the future form of government and the people's mode of life, in addition to an Islamic Ideology Council, committees of various hue have been active for a long time. But no positive or desirable results have appeared on the horizon from all these activities.

It was thought that the recommendations of the Islamic Ideology Conference would be the final say on the matter, because President Zia had said that he had gathered the best minds and hearts of the country in the Council; that the plans these individuals prepared for the future form of government and mode of life would be accepted and put into effect without any delay; and that only the people had the right to exercise power.

But the irony of it all is that the definitive report that the Islamic Ideology Council prepared and submitted after years of effort and unremitting research and enquiry was returned to the Council by President Zia with some added remarks of his own. Perhaps the scholars of the Islamic Ideology Council were not able to protect and clarify the president's position in the report. The details of the report were not officially made public, but the speculations of thoughtful men lead one to believe that the report must have included the recommendation that after elections, the present authorities hand over the reins of government to the elected representatives of the people. But the report has been returned to the Council for further study.

These details have come to the attention of some of our leaders and statesman who are beginning to think that martial law will remain the country's fate.

Perhaps it is as a result of this impression, whether correct or not, that in spite of certain restrictions upon expression of opinion, they have had the courage to speak up. Hence, Begum Nasi Wali Khan stated recently that martial law was imposed in the name of basic democracy and at other times in the name of Islam, but that the day was not far when the people would pour out of their homes to demand their rights. She said we are not afraid of lashes or of jails. History proves that we have made sacrifices through the ages. This time a tidal wave will be unleashed that no one will be able to control. Some people say that the MRD is not active enough. It is not active because there is no freedom of speech, writing or assembly and its hands and feet are tied. But political activity is bound to take place. The time is getting ripe for action, and the restrictions placed upon lawyers will also not prove to be in the wiser interests of the country or the people.

The defunct Jamaat-e Islami's Mian Tufail Mohammed has said that the government is prolonging its term of power in the name of Islam. The defunct Muslim League's leader Pir Pagara has said that the government should hold elections as soon as possible and hand over the reins of power to the people's elected representatives. Pir Pagara said that the Muslim League was capable of taking over the governing of the country. He said that the most important need was for the unity of political parties having similar views. Pir Pagara stressed that the people should maintain unity among themselves and keep watch on individuals who were working against the concept of Pakistan and trying to create dissension and quarrels amongst the people. He said that the present government's claims of establishing Islam were mere lip service, and the government was deliberately avoiding practical measures under various excuses. When Pir Pagara's attention was drawn to the increase in crime, he said that the increase in the frequency of murder, burglary and hold-ups proved the government's failure.

Sardar Sherbaz Mazari has said, "We will not accept changes in the 1973 constitution made by any non-elected government or individuals." In answer to a question he said that if the government continues to pay no attention to the desires of the people and ignores their demand for the restoration of democracy, the people would take to the streets and make sacrifices as they had done in the past. But such a state of affairs would not be good for the country because danger lurked on the country's borders. He said, "In view of the present dangers, we want the army to realize its responsibilities." In answer to a journalist's question, Mairaj Mohammed Khan said that the unity of political parties on a wider scale could prove fruitful on condition that other parties accepted MRD's four points and prepared openly for the struggle to restore democracy.

The discussion going on about amendments with regard to the lawyers is also responsible to a great extent for the strained atmosphere. Since the ranks of lawyers are filled with past and future politicians, this is a natural reaction on their part. But the agitation could spread and become a factor in the protests against the present situation.

It was probably in reaction to these changes in the situation that the Karachi newspaper JASARAT wrote in its editorial:

"The current situation is that the present military government, which had taken over the reins of power with the claim of holding general elections within a

period of 90 days, after the lapse of 5 years does not appear to be preparing to hold elections even in the distant future. Of course, the promises of elections continue to be repeated. God alone knows what their real intentions are, but based on outward appearances the general impression is that new tactics are resorted to each time to postpone elections. Token measures are taken to appease the people. First, it was suggested that accountability was necessary before elections were held. Since the proposal seemed logical, the people supported it. But even after the publication of lengthy white papers, not a single criminal was brought to justice. Then the political parties of the national alliance were invited to participate in the exercise of power. But this participation was mere show and the real power remained in the hands of the army and the bureaucracy; all the politicians got out of it was notoriety.

During these long 5 years, it has been repeatedly said that there is no question of power being relinquished before the establishment of an Islamic order; yet no concrete steps have been taken toward an Islamic administration leading to the justified public view that Islam is being used as a means to prolong the control of power. Recently the Islamic Ideology Council was asked to prepare new plans that could several more years. All these things strengthen the impression that a new excuse is brought forth daily to delay elections and prolong control."

Politicians here have started preparations for a round table conference that may or may not be held, for in this country, politics has been made the forbidden fruit. The existence of politicians and political parties hangs by the weak thread of the word "defunct." Any political activity is entirely out of the question. As far as the above-mentioned conference is concerned, only a fool would believe that it would not have any connection with politics, hence the danger that the government will cancel the conference before it is convened and nip in the bud the dreams of the politicians.

The question is that under these conditions, what will be the consequences of all the talk going around. Begum Nasim Wali Khan thinks that the time is ripe for a movement. Mr Mazari says that if the people remain deprived of their rights, they will take to the streets. Lawyers say that their profession and their future have been headed towards destruction, and that their losses do not presage good results for the country. There is talk in some circles of ending employment opportunities for women. The various kinds of unrest previously found among students still continue. High prices continue to plague the people. The largesse bestowed upon the lower and middle level government employees by the government has not healed any wounds.

One should keep in mind that at any time, these bitter facts could act as the spark setting off the conflagration. In this country, martial law is a frightening force, but history shows that under such a force as well, people have risen up in protest, their shrouds upon their shoulders, ready to shed their blood. What were the conditions, not too long ago, when the present government came into power? Martial law was at its height then, yet every man was like an erupting volcano and every woman was a [words missing] in defense of democratic rights and social justice.

9863

CSO: 4203/175

DENIAL OF RIGHTS, SUSPENSION OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY CRITICIZED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 9 Sep 82 p 34

[Article: "Come November?"]

[Text]

UPP, quoting reliable sources, says that limited political activity will be allowed from the middle of November under a legal framework order . . . In view of some recent steps taken by the Government, official circles in Karachi and Lahore have confirmed that President Ziaul Haq wants to hold general elections and that he will soon be meeting with political leaders.

We concede that Martial Law had to be imposed thrice because of internal compulsions but there is no justification for its prolongation or for continued denial of fundamental rights. It is also an admitted fact that not only under democracy but also under Islam, military rule is not favoured. Therefore, the sooner the ban on political activities is removed, the better it will be for our social and national security needs. . . .

The most important question is: what is the official concept of democracy and general elections? Again, is this concept acceptable to the 80 million people of Pakistan? . . . In re-

gard to elections, some of the recommendations made by the Council of Islamic Ideology . . . as briefly reported in the Press, are against the spirit of democracy. For example, it would be a travesty of democratic principles to have legislative assemblies 40 per cent of whose membership is nominated. The CII recommendation is tantamount to murdering democracy and the strengthening of the rule by nomination.

Apart from all this, the question of a constitutional role for the armed forces has also been under discussion for some time now. According to official politicians, a permanent constitutional role for the armed forces is essential. No one has made it clear though, as to how this will be done when we have had two constitutions annulled and another under suspension. In these conditions, even limited political activity will be interesting. It remains to be seen whether it will solve any of our internal problems.—MAGHRABI PAKISTAN.

CSO: 4220/380

RESTORATION OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS DEMANDED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 19 Aug 82 p 34

[Text]

THE way the people celebrated the 36th Independence Day on Saturday clearly proves how deeply they love their country and freedom. The unity of the masses plays a vital role in national integration and the country's security. Pakistan also came into being as a result of an unprecedented show of unity demonstrated by the Muslims of the sub-continent. Unity of the Pakistani people alone can guarantee the security of this country. But for this, it is necessary that the people should be provided with internal freedom and their basic rights should immediately be restored —

and parties and yet the people have shown their love of their homeland with zeal and enthusiasm. This calls for an immediate restoration of the political process in the country.

We expect that the military rulers (who have completed five years in power) will not now delay the restoration of democracy and the fundamental rights of the people. Independence has no meaning without the restoration of basic rights. In this connection, the Government has made promises from time to time, but still nothing practical has been done. We hope the Government will pay immediate attention towards the restoration of fundamental rights in Pakistan.—MAGHRABI PAKISTAN, Aug. 16.

CSO: 4220/378

DEPENDENCE ON AMERICAN ARMS DEPLORED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 26 Aug 82 p 4

[Text]

AN AMERICAN calling himself "John Doe" — clearly a cover name and writing from "camp Rawalpindi", has warned the Government and people of Pakistan through the Press that everyone in the free world should understand Israel in "its recent actions (in) eliminating the 'Trojan Horse' of International communism, that is, the PLO". The John Does of the current era shall be made to eat their words by their progeny who would concur with Toynbee's and Bertrand Russell's view of history that Israel in fact was the Trojan Horse of Western Powers planted on the soil of the Middle East.

This angry American is undoubtedly serving the cause "of the noble defenders of the Faith . . . comprising our Celto-Saxon Family of Christian Israel nations" — to quote General Sir Walter Walker, the author of the *The Next Domino*. Like any true son, born, bred and nurtured in the socio-economic philosophy of the Jewish capitalist system which, by the way, Marx and Trotsky — the Jewish-born — tried to destroy, Mr. John Doe concludes in a tone which is more threatening than angry that "the people of Pakistan must understand that at the hour of final reckoning their fate is already sealed with the U.S".

Pakistan has had its hours of reckoning in 1965 and 1971. On both occasions, Pakistan's fate was indeed sealed — but by the U.S. and not along with it. In 1965, the Ameri-

can Government unilaterally suspended the operation of U.S.-Pakistan mutual Defence Agreement by stopping the supply of arms and spare parts badly needed by our armed forces to defend the country against Indian aggression. In 1971, the U.S. created its famous Hollywood style 'Pakistan Tilt' fiction both by taking the Third World media for a ride as well as through the phantom movement of the American Pacific Fleet, knowing fully well that the American Fleet stood militarily checkmated by a far more powerful Russian fleet shadowing the U.S. flotilla.

The *raison d'être* of Mr John Doe's fulmination, however, is to be found in the concluding sentence of his missive, when this "American businessman" selling wheat to Russia, heavy water to India's Tarapur nuclear plant and F-16s to Israel points out to Pakistanis "that General Dynamics, manufacturers of the F-16s so eagerly awaited by your country is 35 per cent owned by American Jews. So far they have not objected to this deal but who knows".

Mr. John Doe's disclosure does spring a surprise: that Jewish interests should control only a paltry 35 per cent of General Dynamics! The important question arising from the underlined threat is whether an eighty million-strong nation can permit itself to be held at ransom by the supply or otherwise by three score F-16s — to be delivered in dribbles over a period of three years or so.—COL. S.G. MEHDI (Retd.), Sind Club, Karachi.

PAKISTAN-SOVIET COOPERATION, CORDIAL RELATIONS STRONGLY SUPPORTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 26 Aug 82 p 7

[Article by Groundsman]

[Text]

THE CMLA-President's recent observations on Pakistan's relations with the Soviet Union should provide a helpful framework for exchanges between the two neighbourly States when Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik goes to Moscow next month.

In an interview to a Rawalpindi weekly, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq described cultivation of friendly relations with the USSR as one of the basic objectives of Pakistan's foreign policy and emphasised the fact that "we have no bilateral dispute with the Soviet Union". It was true, he said, that there were some differences on principle with the Soviet Union on the situation in Afghanistan, as a result of which an enormous burden of refugees had been put on Pakistan, but he hoped that the process of negotiations begun at Geneva would soon provide a satisfactory and complete solution of the Afghan problem with the help of the United Nations. He cited the Pakistan Steel Mills and the thermal power project at Guddu as examples of fruitful economic cooperation between the two countries and affirmed Pakistan's keenness to further develop economic relations with the USSR. Cultural exchanges were increasing day by day, he stated.

Basic principles

These views are wholly in accord with the principles that govern, or should govern, the formulation of Pakistan's foreign policy. These are:

first, that Pakistan's foreign policy must be based entirely on the country's national interests; second, that bilateral relations should not be affected by any differences in the ideologies and systems followed by the countries concerned; and, third, that these ties should be developed without prejudice to Pakistan's relations with any other country. However, the fact that the application of these principles has not been evenhanded has often been conceded. In the early years of independence, we were so completely carried away by the myths bequeathed to us by an imperialist Britain and later on by the Dullesian epidemic of pactitis that the great northern neighbour was not only ignored but thoughtlessly provoked into a punitive mood. It was much later that we discovered that we did not subscribe to the ideology of the friends we had chosen either and hence differences on this count need not have spoiled our relations with any particular Power. Still later came the discovery that in the modern world, economic and cultural relations could be developed with all countries despite differences of opinion on world issues, even during the pendency of bilateral disputes. Thus, a closest possible alliance was developed and maintained with the USA in spite of the latter's role in creating and fostering the greatest enemy of the Muslim world — Israel — and good relations were sought with India in spite of disagreement over Kashmir. It was only

natural to argue that the same principles should govern Pakistan's attitude towards the Soviet Union.

Not only that, over the years we have discovered, especially during the yearly consultations that have been held on the eve of U.N. General Assembly sessions, that in international affairs, Pakistan and the USSR have identical views on a large number of issues — Palestine, Namibia, denuclearisation of the Indian Ocean, arms limitation, the creation of a New International Economic Order, etc., — and that the area of differences is very small. In fact, on some of these questions Pakistan has significant differences with several countries friendship with whom is supposed to be the principal prop of its external policy.

Furthermore, the possibilities of economic and cultural gains for Pakistan from normal and friendly cooperation with the USSR are more attractive than has ever been acknowledged. Pakistan's need to diversify its foreign trade demands a sincere attempt to develop commerce with the Soviet Union. The basis of cooperation in the industrial sector laid by the

steel mills can be expanded and several proposals have been under consideration for quite some time. There are immense possibilities of fruitful cooperation in the farming sector, for Pakistan and the Soviet Central Asia not only have similar soil and climatic conditions but also share several major problems, like salinity and waterlogging. Likewise, Pakistan should have no hesitation to benefit from the Soviet advances in technology as many developing and even developed Western countries are doing, or to expand the area of cultural exchanges at both official and non-official levels.

It is true that the growth of mutually beneficial relations between any two countries depends on goodwill at both ends. But it should not be beyond our Foreign Office to work out an understanding with Moscow in the interest of both the countries and in the larger interest of peace and progress. Given a clear vision and the requisite will, the task may prove to be easier than the circuitous alternatives we have been playing around with.

CSO: 4220/378

OVER OPTIMISM OF ECONOMIC 'FORTUNE TELLERS' SLATED

Karachi ECONOMIC REVIEW in English Aug 82 p 6

[Excerpt]

Right at the moment, when the entire world is perturbed over the recessionary conditions, the soothsayers in Pakistan are forecasting an unenviable robust investment climate, brighter prospects for bumper crops and big export potential for our farm output, and good signs for the discovery of oil in the country. The leader of the economic experts who is predicting good fortune for the country these days is none other than Dr. Mahbubul Haque, a world renowned economist. He recently visited Washington D.C. for pleading Pakistan's case before the World Bank and the U.S. Government for rescheduling Pakistan's debts for atleast 10 years. He says that the current situation is such that when Pakistan secures a new debt of one US dollar, atleast 80 cents go back in debt servicing, leaving a net 20 cents for development financing. From his statements it appears he was heard with rapt attention and those who mattered promised to look into his case next April. Meanwhile, there are reports that donors were satisfied with the economic progress made by Pakistan in recent years and they did not consider it necessary to give Pakistan the required respite in debt payments through a rather long-term rescheduling. Well, there are other countries in the queue with same requests and Pakistan will have to compete with them in justifying its case. Yet despite all the confusion and depressing and distressing situation in the world, Dr. Haque is going ahead with formulating his 5 - Year Development Plan, scheduled to be launched next July. Pakistan farm output has substantially increased, we have become surplus in wheat, sugar, cotton, and have a tremendous scope in expanding our exports of rice, fruits and vegetables,

livestock, dairy and poultry products to the nearby Middle East market. The experts believe that with a little support Pakistan can achieve big rise in its exports of farm output. The fortune-tellers have noted the positive signs for predictions which look bright and soothing but have ignored some of the sore and dark points which could have helped in balancing their too highly optimistic forecasts. The most obvious of these negative signs is the high cost of production in Pakistan. Our sugar is not competitive in the market and so is our wheat and a lot of other products. Without attempting to lower down the production costs, the expert's forecasts for bigger exports can at best be described as a fantasy. On the contrary the fiscal and monetary measures that are being taken are sure to further increase the production costs.

On the 14th of August, 1982 Pakistan celebrated the 35th year of its Independence with an unusual fervor. On this day, if one takes a stock of the nation's problems one will be surprised to note that the problems that existed in 1947 continue to exist and we have not yet been able to solve any of these problems. The search for a national identity is still as elusive as it was at the time of independence. We have not yet been able to make our ideological frontiers secure enough to revert to democracy. Our literacy rate at 14 per cent is one of the lowest in the world. Our agricultural production is still far below the international per acre yield and our costs are so high that we cannot export most of these products. The import requirements are ever increasing despite development of local import substitution industries. Our infrastructure remains poor and shortages of water, electricity, gas roads and communications are not only hampering further industrialisation but curbing even existing manufacturing units. Our balance of payments situation is continuously worsening with deficits widening. Our burden of debts has mounted to over \$10 billion and our annual debt servicing cost is around \$1.0 billion a year. Our defence forces, despite a huge budgetary allocation each year are still too heavily dependent on imported defence equipment and technology because of a lack of local production of much of the defence requirements. In short, it is time to think what have we achieved during the last three-and-a-half decade of our independence for which we must show our pride. The socio-economic structure has

virtually remained static. Above all, it appears that we have been so much baffled with the fortune tellers or exports that we have mostly lived in dreams and/or have been floating at the current of tides, gloating over our inefficiency and lack of hard thinking in proper perspective. The experts rely on data which is made available to them by the bureaucracy which has a vested interest in maintaining the status quo. The predictions from experts are not based on occult sciences or practices but based on some sort of scientific analysis. Without widespread awareness, discussion and active participation of the masses in decision making, we should not expect to move forward. Those in authority should analyse the expert opinion and advise with caution, and not swallow it lock stock and barrel. No doubt Pakistan has rich natural resources and a highly productive manpower which, if put to properly planned use in a conducive socio-economic and political environment can perform miracles. — *Salman Sadiq*

CSO: 4220/381

'JEHAD' AGAINST SOCIAL EVILS LIGHTLY RIDICULED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 2 Sep 82 p 10

[Article by U No Who]

[Text]

THE BIGGEST event since the Minto-Morley Reforms has occurred. We are all going to give a big hand to the "jehad" launched to reform society.

The I & B Ministry has been given the additional task of reforming the society, setting up "islahi committees" and persuading people to speak the truth and "avoid" giving false evidence in courts of law.

Reports are not clear if they can give false evidence before a committee or a tribunal.

It is not known whether the Ministry will now be rechristened I & B and Moral re-Armament. Someone objected to the expression because of a fraudulent organisation of the same name which was very active some years ago. It was therefore decided that the new venture be called Social Reformation.

Motivating the young

Raja Saheb will head the Committee which will suggest ways and means of motivating the young and showing the 'danda' to the older generation.

People will be asked to lead simple, austere lives and keep good relations with their neighbours: offer them no war pacts, may be. Simple living may mean an air-conditioned house.

There is no mention of promises. Should they be kept or ignored.

And, yes. Austere living will mean riding a black Mercedes Benz. Our neighbours, I don't mean the Jones next door, the Chinese ride "paper tigers". I mean the leaders, while the

high officials ride cycles, eat boiled rice and take soyabean soup for dinner. Instead of lunch they have a short nap in the afternoons.

The L & O situation was found "much better" and the honour of the people "safe".

Very true reports. While the biggest-ever and the first of its kind, conference on "Islah-i-Ma'shara" was in session in the plush Secretariat with scores of cops lined up along the road leading to the venue, taking advantage two men under the sanctity of the "chaddar" entered the National Jewellers in Pindi's new "sarafa bazar" on the busy Murree Road at 1-30 in the afternoon and asked the owner and two attendants to "stick 'em up". One impertinent attendant did not obey the orders and also did not care for the sanctity of the "chaddar" and unmindful of consequences, pounced upon the two. The two who were carrying guns, opened fire. But it appears that their guns were made in Darra (Adamkhel) and did not hit the bull's eye.

Sensation

Sensation seized the mid-day crowds when they heard the gun-fire. There was a scramble. Taking advantage of the "temporary" disorder, the two got into their waiting car with tainted "purdah" window-panes and drove off towards Islamabad.

Knowing that strike is not a good thing, the owners of the shops in the area went on a lightning strike.

They even held a Press conference, declaring that the L & O situation was far from satisfactory. Crime reporters who have been having a lean period because of the "satisfactory" law and order situation, got good copy after a long time.

So, not only giving an exaggerated and sensational version of the abortive dacoity, they added on their own that the bandits who looted two Raja Bazar shops and decamped with watches and other things worth hundreds of thousands of rupees remain untraced. That was a week ago. There is no need to recall an event that old.

Non-co-operation

Not only that, reports say that the cops have not been able to trace the killers of Shura member Shahzada Malik Khan. The cops allege that the aggrieved party was not cooperating with the police. A letter and reminder sent to the son of the Shura member by the police seeking cooperation have remained unanswered. A month has passed.

But thanks to our men toiling in the sands of Arabia that they are keeping the people busy in buying, shopping and watching colour television and the VCR's.

Except for a few madcaps, the rest of the people are taking no interest in politics or a new political set-up. They are busy discussing the new house they are going to buy. The refrigerator they have imported and the deep freezer that's on its way. And also, the "blue" they saw the previous night at the house of you know who.

Very alert

Since the theft of seven cars on Eid Day, the cops have become very alert. They deflate the tyres of the cars left unattended outside the Bara market lest some subversive element drives it away to the tribal area. But they are careful to leave certain cars untouched — the "burqa"-wearing number plates.

They say: when leaving the car, leave a chowkidar to take care of the vehicle and take out all the papers (registration, driving licence, etc.) with you so that they don't fall in the hands of the car thief.

Good tips for Pindi car-owners. I hope other cities will follow suit.

"Join the Jihad"

Before the Speak-the-Truth-Etc.-Committee meets I have some humble suggestions. Get some posters printed such as "Join the Jihad", "Speak the Truth — Nothing but the Truth". "Avoid giving false evidence in Courts of Law".

"Love Thy Neighbour

I offer my services to get these posters printed in millions — free! Only service charges will be billed.

The 'Jihad' has, for the time being left out, the police and the evil of interest and usury. Time is required to consult the IMF and a source close to the WB and IMF has been asked to find a way out: to kill the snake and save the lathi, too.

SPECULATION OF MRS BHUTTO GOING ABROAD EXAMINED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 2 Sep 82 p 15

[Article by Sarmad Ali]

[Text]

BEGUM Nusrat Bhutto, who now heads the defunct Pakistan People's Party, is seeking permission to go abroad for medical treatment. On August 22, she sent a letter to the Federal Interior Ministry along with relevant medical reports in support of her application.

Begum Bhutto, according to circles close to her family, may be suffering from lung cancer. Her left lungs showed signs of malignancy in tests taken here last month. According to her physicians, she had got to go either to Western Europe or the U.S. for cat-scanning.

According to usually reliable sources, the Federal Interior Ministry is seriously considering her application and it is likely to be accepted. But the permission to go abroad would be conditional.

May meet sons

During her stay abroad the widow of the former Prime Minister is likely

to meet her two sons, Murtaza and Shahnawaz. There has been no contact between mother and sons for the last few years.

Who would head the PPP in her absence? According to an early party decision, either her daughter Benazir or Senior Vice-Chairman Sheikh Mohammad Rasheed should head the PPP during her absence abroad. But since both these leaders are under detention, political observers here believed that the most likely choice may be former Sind Chief Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi. Mr. Jatoi, regarded as a dove, is one of the very few leaders who would be acceptable to all — within and without the party.

Mr. Fatehyab Ali Khan of the defunct Mazdoor Kissan Party, Khwaja Khairuddin of the Muslim League and Mr. Jatoi have recently called on the PPP chief at her residence. Talking to newsmen later, Mr. Jatoi said the Government should allow Mrs. Bhutto to go abroad without delay.

Meanwhile, Mr. Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, a former Federal Minister a cousin of the former Prime Minister, left London on August 22, for medical check-up.

CSO: 4220/379

SHARIAT COURT SUPPORTED IN ITS DECISION ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN JUDICIARY

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 19 Aug 82 p 6

[Text]

THE Shariat Court's dismissal of a petition challenging the appointment of women as qazis, magistrates and judges is, in keeping with the highest traditions of our faith. We are sure that the verdict will be interpreted in the manner the Federal Shariat Court would want it to be interpreted — in the most liberal sense, that is — so that the needless controversy about the status of women in an Islamic society is brought to an end once and for all. If women can be appointed to the judiciary, it should be taken to mean that they can participate fully in all other fields of national endeavour the views of some self-appointed purveyors of Islam notwithstanding. Giving its ruling, the learned court observed that it found no precedent in Islamic history which could be even remotely interpreted as a bar to the appointment of women to judicial jobs. A nation cannot demobilise half its population in this day and age and then hope to make

spiritual and material progress. As it is, the Pakistani woman has been denied her rights for far too long. Only a handful of women in the urban areas have the benefit of modern education. For most of them life still means subjugation first to parents who will not understand then to overbearing husbands. Women's problems have never been scientifically catalogued, let alone solutions offered. Well meaning comment such as the present one appears in the Press or is expressed in the drawing rooms of well-intentioned ladies from time to time and that is about all. In a male-dominated society based on the principle of competitive acquisition, women will remain one of the most prized 'things' to acquire, hence the opposition to their emancipation from those who own most of the good things of life. The Federal Shariat Court's verdict is but a small ray of hope. A great deal more remains to be done before the Pakistani woman is freed from the slavery of her own father, her own husband.

CROWDED ENROLLMENT, FALLING STANDARDS AT KARACHI UNIVERSITY EXAMINED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 19 Aug 82 p 7

[Article by Twelfthman]

[Text] — These figures I have on the authority of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Karachi:

At its inception, the institution had 1,200 students, 60 teachers. It had seven departments in the Faculty of Arts and eight in the Faculty of Science. Today, the University has eight faculties and an enrolment exceeding 11,500. It has 558 teachers, including 25 women, no less.

Says the Vice-Chancellor: "The University of Karachi may be the only one in the world which caters to a clientele coming from a population of about 7 million; cities with much smaller populations are known to have more than one university. This University has 56 colleges affiliated to it which have a total enrolment of over 75,000 If one adds to this the number of over 8,000 private candidates who appear at the various examinations annually (because a very large number of employees from the commercial and government organisations wishing to acquire higher degrees) he can appreciate the growth and dimension of the activities of the Karachi University".

The University has "a total of about 40 per cent of student enrolment in Pakistan Universities" but it "received only about 16 percent of

the total government grants last year. Its enrolment of students from 1976 to 1981 has gone up from 7,700 to about 11,500. To provide teaching and guidance to this vast number of

students, it has only 558 teachers whereas another University with 7,700 students has 450 teachers, yet another having 3,400 students has 427 teachers", laments the Vice-Chancellor.

Experts will always disagree on the optimum size of a university. Eleven thousand-plus looks assuredly a very big number to a layman especially when you take the large number of colleges affiliated to the University into consideration. Also to be noted is the fact that there are only 558 teachers to look after this huge body of students.

Student-teacher ratio

The student-teacher ratio may be much better at the Karachi University than in most of our overcrowded schools and colleges but it still is far from satisfactory. This may indeed be one of the reasons why this institution has decided to do away with the semester system under which each student has to have the individual attention of his tutors.

The semester system was foredoomed to failure not only in Karachi but elsewhere because it was introduced in an age of student unrest in universities which had no academic or administrative autonomy. We are back therefore to the time-dishonoured system of annual examinations which makes it possible even for the dullest student to get through with the help of guide books, made easies and things like that, plus, of course, the magnanimity

of examiners the roads to whose houses or offices are paved with legal tender.

Be that as it may, the fall in teaching standards has assumed proportions which can truly be called alarming and if not arrested in time, they may well lead to tragic consequences.

Coupled with the fall in academic standards is the problem of the flight of skilled and semi-skilled labour abroad. If a matriculate can earn as much in a year in the Gulf as a graduate with a white-collar job can in a lifetime of drudgery in a public

office at home, what incentive remains for higher education? A job at the civil secretariat is no longer the status symbol it used to be in the days of the Raj or in the early years of independence. Money is more important today than civil service 'status'. Indeed, quite a few public servants themselves have left for pastures new or are on convenient and infinitely more lucrative 'deputation' abroad.

One is surprised, therefore, at very large number of students on roll in the University of Karachi and elsewhere. Obviously, they still have hope. The more foolish they!

CSO: 4220/378

DEPLORABLE LOW RATE OF LITERACY CRITICIZED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 9 Sep 82 p 6

[Text]

TILL the time of going to the press, we are not aware of any plans in Pakistan to observe the International Literacy Day (September 8) proclaimed by the UNESCO with a view to reminding nations and governments that literacy is still the most important yardstick to measure their progress. It is possible that somebody in the department concerned wants to spring a surprise through a handout in the papers today and has, therefore, kept preparations for the Day a closely guarded secret. Or, maybe, the subject is too embarrassing for us to be debated in public. Otherwise, the first days of September every year constitute a period when literacy and education are subjects which are most seriously debated in thousands of Pakistani homes. This year, too, we have had the usual quota of problems relating to college admissions. Nobody knows as yet what will happen to the thousands of boys and girls who have failed to get admission to colleges, or the unmitigated plight of the third divisioners, or the kind of education the relatively lucky ones will get at sub-standard institutions. Even otherwise, a society which is still not able to send half of its children to school has

ample reason to feel ashamed. As for adult literacy, we are still waiting for plans for a nation-wide campaign.

However, there must come moments — and the International Literacy Day is an appropriate occasion — when conscious Pakistanis may shed their complacency and suspend their habit of self-glorification and see what even younger and poorer States have done to promote literacy. The literacy miracles of Mexico and Sri Lanka and Central Asia are old stories. Much inspiring progress has been made by African countries. The 'Dark Continent' now has an average literacy level of 43 per cent as against the common percentage of 3 to 10 in the colonial period. Tanzania has raised its literacy percentage to 80 — thanks to its plans for primary and adult education and the willingness of its leaders to spend 20 per cent of the budget on education. New Ethiopia has raised the literacy level from 20 to 45 per cent in just four years. The number of students in Zimbabwe has doubled in the two years of independence. Angola has done so well in the field of education that its progress has been acknowledged by the UNESCO with a prize. These are countries which started off under worse conditions than

Pakistan. They too have the problem of a rapid population growth, to which our experts attribute our slow progress towards the goal of universal education. They, too, have security preoccupations and the curse of competing demands on national resources. What is it, then, that has enabled these countries to fight the scourge of illiteracy better than Pakistan?

The truth is that Pakistan has never given education and literacy the priority they deserve. And over the years the wage structure has become so lopsided that the worth of education in the eyes of the common man has further declined. When illiterate and unskilled workers can earn, at home and abroad, more than clerks, teachers, and qualified professionals, the pursuit of knowledge is bound to be dismissed as wasteful. Our experts are still asking for arguments to prove that literacy can improve the productivity of the cobbler, the mason and the cultivator, and there is no end to hair-splitting as to who should handle adult education and how, or where the money is going to come from. Meanwhile, the army of illiterate adults continues to grow. Rightly, no Literacy Day for us.

CSO: 4220/380

DISPASSIONATE EXAMINATION OF SOCIAL REFORM CAMPAIGN URGED; DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT OFFERED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 2 Sep 82 p 5

[Text]

AT THE END of a marathon inter-provincial conference last week, presided over by the CMLA-President, a major programme of social, administrative and judicial reform has been launched. Several committees have been set up to suggest means to curb evil in its various manifestations. A Social Reform Committee has been given three weeks to recommend means which will strengthen moral values and ensure compliance with religious obligations. The simplification of official procedures has been entrusted to a Re-organisation Committee. Another committee has been charged with the task of formulating plans for the promotion of 'creative enterprise' and economic efficiency. While yet another committee will try to suggest means of making justice speedier and inexpensive, a separate body will examine the Evidence Act, the Rent Control Act, and the Family Laws Ordinance and the possibility of administering the latter laws through special tribunals. There are two more committees, one to examine the question of public servants' efficiency and the other to review the efficiency and discipline rules. It is not possible to challenge the declared objectives for the attainment of which

these committees have been set up. Also, in the existing circumstances the search for remedies for some of the most common difficulties and ways to deal with most of the malpractices may easily yield a good number of positive proposals.

At the same time, a Jihad has been proclaimed, in the first instance, against such common evils as corruption, bribery, narcotics, smuggling, illegal acquisition of property, perjury, and spurious drugs. For the drive against corruption and bribery, certain departments have been selected for the time being — hospitals, railways, customs, excise and taxation, and telephones. It has been decided that, except for cases of false evidence, people found indulging in these social evils will be tried by military courts. Again, the desire to purge society of all social evils through a Jihad is unexceptionable. However, there are a few aspects of the matter which may well be taken into consideration before the final plans for the drive are put into effect. Programmes of social and moral purification are normally the first items on the agenda of Martial Law regimes and the launching of such campaigns five years after the imposition of Martial Law could give people

the impression that the status quo might be prolonged indefinitely. The decision to entrust cases of corruption or other social evils to military courts also needs to be examined dispassionately. It is worth considering whether it would be fair to military courts to burden them with such cases which are likely to run into hundreds of thousands.

While sharing the Government's concern over the spread of social evils, which must have reached alarming proportions to necessitate the current campaign, we should like to submit that societies are not purged of vices and evil practices by laying down heavy penalties for the indiscreet evildoer alone. The objective can only be achieved by defining the limits of propriety in accordance with the contemporary sensibility. Societies do suffer at the hands of wrongdoers but perhaps more at the hands of people who do wrong in the belief of acting rightly. What needs to be studied is not the manifestation of social evils but the system that gives rise to the evil pursuits and emboldens otherwise normal people to succumb to their base instincts. The answer does not lie in any system of accountability — for all social systems including the tribal and feudal had their standards of accountability — but in one which springs from people's freely chosen social-political dispensation. Meanwhile, we should like to invite the Social Reform Committee to ponder the Holy Prophet's saying: *An-naaso ala deen-i-mulookihim* (the people follow the path of their rulers). The exercise could be most rewarding.

GOVERNOR ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF TORTURE

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 2 Sep 82 pp 12-13

[Text]

THE Governor Punjab, Lt-Gen. Ghulam Jilani Kham, has ordered investigation into the alleged torture of some political workers in the New Central Jail, Multan.

He issued the orders on an application filed by the wife of a political detenu, Syed Amir Ali Shah, in which the applicant said that the jail authorities had planned to kill her husband through physical and mental torture.

According to details, Syed Amir Shah was sitting outside his barrack when the man in charge of barrack abused him. Some detenus, including Ghulam Mustafa Khan, Nur Moham-mad Chauhan, were also present. When these people tried to argue with the man, he lost his temper and declared an emergency by blowing his whistle. The jail authorities rushed to the scene and allegedly beat up the detenus. Later, all of them were locked up in the 'chakkis'

CSO: 4220/379

SPEEDY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST TERRORISTS SUGGESTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 2 Sep 82 p 6

[Text]

MIAN Tufail Mohammad has disclosed that some subversive elements have threatened several important personalities including the Interior Minister with assassination. That the people should learn of the dastardly threats through him is not a little surprising. However, if such threats have in fact been issued their authors can only be denounced as dangerous and irresponsible malcontents who deserve neither sympathy nor support. No responsible political faction can subscribe to the theory of progress through individual terrorism and murder. However, Mian Tufail Mohammad has also made a point which merits immediate and earnest consideration of the authorities. He has deplored the fact that although 90 per cent of the subversive people have been rounded up, no action has been taken against them. He has asserted that by being kept under detention, the 'terrorists' are being turned into 'heroes'. Few would agree with Mian Tufail Mohammad's unsubstantiated conclusion — the

Government cannot possibly have any interest in transforming terrorists into 'heroes' — but we will agree with the inference that long periods of detention without trial are not only counter-productive but also contrary to the principles of natural justice.

There should be a reasonable limit to the period the investigating agencies can be allowed to complete their cases against these internees, on the expiry of which they should either be tried under the normal laws or released. This is necessary not only in the interest of the detainees but also in the interest of the administration's reputation for probity and fairness. Unless the accused are formally charged and proceeded against in accordance with the law, there will be no way of dispelling the impression that people can suffer incarceration for minor functionaries' errors of identification, misjudgement or their penchant for exploiting any bogey to settle personal scores.

CSO: 4220/379

PRACTICE, CONCEPT OF CORRUPTION EXAMINED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 9 Sep 82 pp 29,30

[From "Cultural Periscope" column: "Who Is Corrupt?"]

[Text]

ULTIMATELY, all human actions are either moral or immoral. All moral issues are ultimately related to the religious beliefs of a given society. At any rate this is true of our society. Religion is a matter of prime concern for us; we claim that it is our ideology. Corruption in our ideologically charged situation is often confused with questions of morality. Remove the ideological rhetoric and you will find that we define corruption all wrong.

Corruption is a violation of the work-ethic. This violation is theoretically part of our morality paraphernalia but outside theory it is not. If we break the work-ethic, which is the acceptance of bribery *as well as* dereliction of the work we are paid to perform, we can be punished under the provisions of the Penal Code or the delegated powers of punitive action vested in the administrative departments. Let us repeat that, while discussing corruption, we will keep to the non-theoretical, non-ideological world of human actions. Work-ethic is the social order in which we all work together in complementary functions. Work-ethic has nothing to do with private acts. In that respect is different from morality. We can handle corruption much better if we keep to the observance of the work-ethic and see that no one among us violates it. Such a position will be attacked for being Western in essence. Perhaps the West is morally retrograde but respect for work-ethic there still survives. The

twenty-paisa stamp is always available there, the telephone connection is available in reasonable time without bribery and there is no overbilling!

We define it wrongly

It is important to define corruption. Most of the time we define it wrongly. A maverick theatre group whose slapstick satire I saw recently, had a very apt line in this regard. When a drunk tramp staggers on to the stage with a bottle of whisky in his hand, a fellow tramp quips: 'Now look at this fool, he is going around spreading corruption'. What has the tramp got to do with corruption? His getting drunk will not affect the running of tubewells in SCARP-I, nor will it get your VCR out of the customs. Yet, the newspapers will blazon news of people catching workers drinking home-brewed wine as if they were playing their role in stamping out corruption from the society. You ask yourself, honestly, what you mean when you say 'so and so's wife is corrupt'? In short, our concept of corruption is all hay-wire.

On the New Year's Eve of 1979, the police went round arresting people from their homes on charges of corruption, i.e., drinking, dancing and, allegedly, fornicating. For the sake of clarity, let us examine what actually must have happened. Maybe, what was happening in homes on the eve of 1979 was morally wrong but it was

not a breach of the work-ethic. The breach of the work-ethic took place when the police tried to extort money from the celebrants according to the deposition made by them later on. The police must work in accordance with their service rules and extortion was a breach of these rules, hence a breach of work-ethic, and hence corruption. You want me to tell you what role the Press played on this occasion? One newspaper contributed to this scenario of purge by printing a small item on the New Year Eve arrests. An apparently objective report actually suggested that the police should also raid the various snack-bars in the city to stamp out corruption!

The pious ones

Because of misplaced emphasis, we are able to be pious without adhering to the work-ethic. If corruption is stamped out scientifically most of the pious people of our society will get stamped out. The profiteering shopkeepers, the black-marketing agents, the defaulting contractors, all manage posturings of piety. Lahore is 'Data ki Nagri' because the corrupt also need the mausoleum psychologically: the attendance at the shrine has grown in proportion to the increase in corruption in the city. Under these circumstances, the only way we can tackle corruption is to remove it from the obfuscating domain of moral and religious rhetoric.

The Penal Code, now threatened with revision on religious grounds, is a completely objective document. If we allow it to guide our conceptual life also we can perhaps judge better between what is corrupt and what is not. As things are now, the future seems bleak. Rape according to the PPC is a cognizable offence, a crime; but fornication is not. A recent promulgation has now made fornication also a cognizable offence which means that a policeman can stop your car and check if you are husband and wife or just friends. In case you are friends, you have to grease the executive palm; or else, the next day while you

are in the lock-up, the Press will go berserk about how with your arrest the police has kicked off a campaign against corruption. If you read your newspapers you will recall a recent report about a case of rape which had to be taken out of the religious court because the rapist could not be punished. We are a terribly confused people.

What are the parameters between which the Press can make its play? In Pakistan the Press has never been free because we tend to inject our genius into every political system we adopt.

In a democracy nobody seems to bother what a poet writes in his obscure handbook. In England all sorts of anti-establishment material is published for the consumption of a 100 per cent literate public. In Pakistan, Ayub Khan was sensitive to the couplet of a ghazal. But the poets have continued to be imprisoned in later, more democratic, times. The Press has likewise been muzzled. Now the question of the play our Press has enjoyed in these times of duress.

In fact, we journalists have reared a breed of opposition-baiters. The Press cannot criticise the political policies of the government in power. That is the ground rule.

Yet there is a function that the Press can perform. If the Government does not identify itself with the bureaucracy, then the newspapers can scrutinise the functions of the various Government departments. In that sense it is not muzzled these days. In this restricted play, the Press can do its bit in eradicating the disease of corruption in public offices. Whether it is doing this competently we will discuss next week but let us describe what precisely is the play available

to the Press. The most disruptable departments in our times are the Telegraph and Telephone Departments, where bills and telephones are

tampered with, and WAPDA which charges bribe like fees from the big contractors. Both of them are being constantly reported upon the Press. Other corrupt departments like LDA, the LMC, the Police, the Post Office, the Education Department, the Revenue Department, all receive regular broadsides in the columns of our newspapers. In fact, the Government has been compelled to institute inquiries and set up inquiry commissions after being brought under pressure by these Press reports.—
JANUS

CSO: 4220/380

TIMIDITY OF PAKISTANI JOURNALISTS CRITICIZED

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 2 Aug 82 p 8

[Article: "Pakistan's Journalists or Porus's Elephants"]

[Text] When Nixon fell from office, a book, "The Watergate Scandal," was published documenting the event. When the court ruled against Mrs Indira Gandhi, the incident was documented in "The Judgment." When Egypt fought against Israel, Mohammad Hasanayn Haykal wrote about it as an insider in his book "Towards the Ramadan War." When the Shah fell taking American interests with him, William H. Sullivan, the last American ambassador in Tehran, wrote about the pros and cons of the event in his "Mission To Iran."

But what is the situation in our country? We fought a war in Kashmir in 1948; in 1951 an assassination plot was carried out against Liaquat Ali Khan; in 1954 the assembly was dismissed; in 1958 a martial law was declared throughout the country; in 1965 war broke out between Pakistan and India; in 1969 Ayub Khan convened a round table conference which was the only one of its kind; at the end of 1970, the first general elections were held in Pakistan; in 1973 Pakistan's constitution was passed; in 1974 the historical conference of the heads of Islamic countries was held in Pakistan; in the same year, Pakistan's national assembly declared the Qadiyanis to be a non-muslim minority; in 1977 PNA and the Peoples' party, which was in power, held the longest negotiations in the history of Pakistan.

PNA participated in the martial law government and then withdrew suddenly; the Lahore High Court ruled against Bhutto and the Supreme Court upheld it; then suddenly it was announced that the sentence was carried out. The MRD was formed and a PIA plane was hijacked. The longest martial law in Pakistan's history has been in force for the last 5 years.

Was a documentary book written about any one of these events? Is there no Jacob Anderson [sic] among us? No Haykal? No Inder Malhotra or Kuldip Nair? Will these incidents of our history always remain a mystery and our nation remain uninformed and wander for ever in political darkness?

The consequences that have arisen from our efforts to stifle the truth are in no way laudable and a revision is needed.

When an individual has the courage to reveal the truth, he encounters various forms of pressure and restrictions. But do our journalists and news writers think that they can express the truth without undergoing any hardships or taking any risks? They would be foolish if they did.

Colonel Illahi Baksh is a thousand times more courageous and laudable than our journalists and news writers. Even though he is a physician, he wrote a book entitled "Quaid-e Azam's Last Hours" revealing the sad aspects of the event. The book was suppressed, but at least it was written by someone who knew what happened.

9863

CSO: 4203/175

ALLOWING IMPORT OF SOVIET PUBLICATIONS RECOMMENDED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 2 Sep 82 p 34

[Text]

... It is vital for Pakistan to learn from the current situation and bring to an end that extremely serious one-sidedness into which we have been driven by a handful of short-sighted officials ... It has become imperative for us to build our own defence capability and to try meaningfully to reduce imports from the West. For this, it is essential to be aware of the grave dangers inherent in having a single source of information and scientific education. We should open the way for a bilateral relationship with the Soviet Union. It would be nothing but pettifogging to say that the present writer considers everything that is published in the USSR as gospel truth. But it is an incontrovertible fact that a study of Soviet policies and propaganda is absolutely essential to the understanding of Zionist treachery. Side by side with this, access to Soviet scientific and informative literature including documents on international relations, industrialisation, economic planning and statistics is necessary for us so that we may be able to evolve realistic and balanced policies. Before 1979, we used freely to get small booklets on science in which modern nuclear physics, chemistry and mathematics were explained in easy to understand language. They were as useful for the student as for the common reader. The reason is that it is part of the overall Soviet strategy to give scientific and technological assistance to those countries the exploitation of whose peoples has enabled the USSR's Western rivals to maintain their scientific and military superiority. Western

policy in this respect is quite the reverse. The United States, Britain and international institutions created by them are doing their best to ensure that there should be no scientific and technological development in backward countries. ...

The World Bank is a subsidiary institution of Zionism and international capitalism. It is our incompetence that we have allowed it to dominate our decision-making apparatus.

About three months ago, the present writer had submitted to the President that survival for small nations lay in striking a balance between the two super-Powers. The non-availability of even a single monthly magazine or daily newspaper from the USSR is highly dangerous for the mental growth of our journalists and intellectuals. The President had reacted promptly by saying that such newspapers and magazines should, indeed, be available in Pakistan. But it is a fact that we are so given to our slavish traditions that we are unable to pursue the President's declared, unambiguous and clear-cut policies of non-alignment and a self-confident, sovereign independence.

National security and realism demand that we withdraw all restrictions on information coming in from the socialist bloc, especially from such serious magazines as 'New Times' and 'International Affairs'. Again, scientific and educational books from this source must be allowed free entry into Pakistan. Once in a while, films on the social aspects of life in Romania, Poland, Uzbekistan, etc.,

should also be shown. We should not depend on imported and canned violence from one country alone, especially from a period in its history when it was busy in the genocide of the red skinned people. Let Zionist imperialism not enslave the minds of our people. Our agricultural and industrial experts should not look one way and run in one direction alone. They should, once in a while, visit and study Soviet institutions.—From an article by Prof. Ashfaq Ali Khan — *NAWA-I-WAQT*, Aug. 25-26.

CSO: 4220/379

ALLOCATIONS FOR ENERGY DISCUSSED

Karachi PROGRESS in English Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Text]

An 18 percent increase in development outlays has been provided for the energy sector in the Annual Development Programme for 1982-83 over the amount budgeted last year. The energy sector includes both, fuel as well as power.

The Annual Development Programme or the Public Sector Development Programme envisages an expenditure of Rs. 31,465 million in 1982-83 compared to an estimated expenditure of Rs. 27,000 million last year.

The fuel sector has been allocated Rs. 2,070 million as compared to 1,719 million for 1981-82. The programme aims an increase in domestic production of oil and natural gas. The oil production is projected to increase from 10,700 barrels per day during the current year to 18,000 barrels per day in 1982-83. This increase will not only help cut down imports but will also save the country an estimated \$ 100 million in foreign exchange.

Natural gas production is expected to increase by about 18 per cent or 55,000 million cubic feet in 1982-83 which is expected to provide some relief in the shortages experienced in the Sui network during the current fiscal year.

Of Rs. 2,070 million allocated to the fuel sector, OGDC is to get Rs. 1284 million. With higher allocations OGDC is expected to expand drilling operations by 22 per cent over the achievements in the current fiscal year. OGDC will accord priority for the development of the fields at Toot, Pirkoh and Dhodak.

Rapid development of the Khaskheli oil field and other fields in which the Government owns part interest will also be ensured during the year.

The power sector has been allocated Rs. 5,650 million compared to Rs. 4,484 million last year. In addition, the Karachi Electric Supply Corporation has been provided adequate funds for completion of its on going projects. As a result of increased financial outlays the country's power generating capacity is expected to be increased by 17 percent but as a large part of the additional capacity will be in the form of hydroelectricity which does not generate at maximum capacity throughout the year, electricity generation is projected to increase by 14 percent. This increase will help relieve some of the power shortages and enable an expan-

sion in the electricity network particularly to the villages. However, given the existing backlog and the rate at which the power demand is growing, energy conservation measures will continue to be necessary.

Of Rs. 5,650 million allocated to the power sector WAPDA will get 85.5 percent amounting to Rs. 4830.8 million. This will enable WAPDA to commission additional capacity totalling 700 MW from the completion of Tarbela units 5, 6, 7 and 8 as well as the transmission facilities for transporting the additional supply.

The distribution of electricity and village electrification programme will also be speeded up. The distribution programme will help expand the electricity network to new users as well as bringing about improvements in the existing network in order to reduce power losses and improve the quality of supplies. The village electrification programme aims at providing electricity to 3000 villages compare to about 1800 villages in the current fiscal year.

CSO: 4220/381

IMPORTANCE OF RCD HIGHWAY DISCUSSED

Karachi ECONOMIC REVIEW in English Aug 82 pp 15-16

[Text]

Thirty long years have been spent in constructing the Karachi - Quetta section of the RCD Highway. The most difficult terrain, Wadh-Kannar section was inaugurated the other day by the Governor of Baluchistan. This 64-mile section of the 440-mile project, winds through difficult mountainous area of blazing Baluchistan, the largest province in terms of area yet scarcely and thinly populated one.

The work on the project was started sometime in 1952 and the project got completed in 1982, after 30 years. It is a case of considerably delayed accomplishment. In order to overcome the backlog, a comprehensive plan has already been prepared to improve water, power, agriculture, irrigation, health and allied facilities in rural landmass along the RCD Highway so that this biggest province is thoroughly opened to modern life.

Borrowing from A.T. Ariyaratne, founder of 'Sarvodaya Shramadana' meeting "awakening of all through shared labour", a movement of self help development and construction launched in Sri Lanka, "We build the Road, the Road Builds us". One can surely forecast that the RCD Highway connecting Karachi with Quetta, by the presently shortest route, is to serve as a vital force in promoting social, cultural, economic and political development of Baluchistan, hitherto living a closed-door tribal life.

Another road route, joining Karachi with Quetta, traversing through Sukkur, Jacobabad and Sibi, stands stretched 580 miles, longer by 140 miles than the RCD Highway, now opened up. Reduction of the distance by 140 miles is considerable and will for sure have its favourable economic impact. The RCD Highway would

be the most convenient means of movement of men and materials and through them culture and understanding, between the most developed and the least developed parts of Pakistan.

This should help in national integration and cohesion, frontiers which can be safely bound by economic interdependence more meaningfully than any other means.

Karachi is a dynamic centre of economic activities which have been spreading far and wide despite official restrictions, since long to adjacent areas. Recent development in this regard has spurred industrial activities near Hub Chowki, a part of Baluchistan, close to Karachi. Soon the stream of economic activities will start meeting the growing needs of development of Baluchistan, which has tremendous hidden potentials for a gigantic growth.

The 440 miles RCD Highway was completed in thirty years. This means, on an average, construction of one mile took over 25 days exactly equal to the working days in a calendar month. Thus one mile a month was on average the work schedule for this vital project.

The project has been completed at a cost of Rs. 262.720 million. This means, on an average, construction cost per mile of the RCD Highway was Rs. 598,000 or rupees five hundred ninety eight thousand. To round off, each mile did cost us rupees six hundred thousand. It may go in the history of road making as perhaps the slowest work attended to. Had it been taken in the high spirit with which it was conceived and commenced back in 1952 and completed in stipulated time, by now the barren yet mineral ladden Baluchistan would have been a distinct identity of resourcefulness. Its development would have been par excellence.

Apart from importance of the RCD Highway in national development, integration and coherence, it is to play a vital link, connecting through alternate international route the countries of Iran, Turkey and Afghanistan and through these countries Pakistan could have land route connection with the Middle East.

In the next two years microwave system along the entire route will be installed which is to ensure efficient communication facilities. A chain of workshops, petrol pumps, markets and service centres will soon spring up on the entire route, to serve as live wire of national development thrust. Certainly the RCD Highway that we have built is going to build us soon.— Umar

DECLINE IN RICE EXPORTS DISCUSSED

Karachi ECONOMIC REVIEW in English Aug 82 pp 10-13

[Text]

Rice comes next to wheat as a staple diet of Pakistan and the largest single foreign exchange earner. It is a major crop of Pakistan and in terms of acreage, it occupies the third position after wheat and cotton. Its output exceeds that of all foodgrains except wheat. Pakistan ranks 10th in the world rice production in 1980-81. Its share in world production is more than one per cent. Other major rice producing countries include China, India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Thailand and Burma. Pakistan has a distinction of being one of the two producers of Basmati rice in the world the other being USA. A unique combination of soil and climatic conditions enable Pakistan to produce the worlds finest rice, of delicate long grain and exotic aroma.

Total production of rice in 1976-77 was 2.73 million tonnes which rose to 3.34 million tonnes in 1981-82. The area under rice showed a rise from 1,749,000 hectares in 1976-77 to 1,935,000 hectares in 1980-81. Foreign exchange earnings from rice during these years showed a rise of 66 per cent up from \$ 245 million in 1976-77 to \$ 564 million in 1980-81. In fact on the five years average of 1973-74 to 1977-78 Pakistan stands 4th among the major rice exporting countries after USA Thailand and Peoples Republic of China. As a proportion of exports of primary commodities, the share of rice increased from 18 per cent in 1971-72 to nearly 42 per cent in 1980-81. Thus rice has emerged as the most important export item during the last few years.

The Fifth Five Year Plan fixed a target of 2.90 million tonnes for rice production for 1982-83. This

target has already been reached during the 1980-81 crop. The crop has registered an all time record production of 3.34 million tonnes during 1981-82 as compared to 3.12 million tonnes in the preceding year. The Federal Committee on Agriculture which met in April last fixed a target for rice production at 3.60 million tonnes. Thus the target of the Fifth Five Year Plan has well been exceeded. With improved agronomic practices, adequate use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and particularly sowing of high yielding varieties seed, rice production in the country would substantially increase to ultimate benefit of the country as a whole.

Although production has shown a significant rise, yield per hectare in Pakistan is quite low. It was 1565 kilograms in 1976-77 which increased to 1601 kilograms in 1980-81. It is very low as compared to that in Japan, USA and People's Republic of China where yield per hectare of rice are considerably higher and in Japan and USA, the yields are well over 5000 kilograms per hectare. Pakistan has not been able to fully exploit the enormous potential so widely grown in the country.

Rice Export Corporation (RECP) is responsible for procurement and export of rice. The procurement price is fixed by the Federal Government in consultation with the provincial governments on the basis of cost of cultivation and is meant to ensure fair return to the growers. RECP procures rice from millers/dealers at prices and upto the targets fixed by government. The present storage capacity available with RECP is about 900,000 tonnes of rice inclusive of additionally built storage capacity. RECP has also set up modern cleaning and processing plants for cleaning of about 900,000 tonnes of rice per annum.

Pakistan produces several varieties of rice, viz, Basmati, Begmi, Kangni, Irri 6 and Irri 8 etc., but the two main exportable varieties are: (1) fine aromatic long grain Basmati and (2) Long grain Irri type known as Irri 6 Sind and Irri 6 Punjab. Basmati rice is the long grain aromatic variety which is qualitatively matchless in its taste and flavour in the world market. Depending on the size of the crop, only three to four hundred thousand tonnes of basmati is available in a year for export. There is therefore a great demand for this variety of rice, specially from the Middle East and Gulf countries where Pakistan basmati rice is

greatly preferred for its taste and flavour. The main buyers of basmati are Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and UAE. In 1980-81, UK, Algeria, Singapore and Mauritius also made sizeable purchases. Pakistan exports over 800,000 tonnes of other varieties of rice, notably Irri 6, Sind and Punjab in a year. The main buyers are the African countries viz, Cameroun, Ivory Coast, Senegal and Algeria and Sri Lanka. Other countries importing this variety of rice are Turkey and some South/Central American countries, in particular Cuba, Paraguay and Peru. Sizeable quantities are also imported by some European countries like Italy and Yugoslavia. Rice export would be a difficult proposition this year in view of the forecast of the bumper crops in the rice importing and exporting countries. Exports have declined to 753,580 tonnes valued at \$ 327.14 million during July, 1981 to April 1982 compared with 987,440 tonnes valued at \$ 441.42 million exported during the same period of the previous year. While Basmati is a favourite all over the world and it should be able to hold its own in the world market, irri 6 and medium and low quality rice call for extra efforts on the part of RECP.

Pakistan's world trade averaged 8.6 per cent between 1975-80. This shows that Pakistan is essentially a price taker and cannot influence prices it receives.

There is urgent need to develop the rice milling industry on modern lines in view of vast potential for increasing the export of rice from Pakistan. Moreover unless Pakistan is able to offer superior quality of rice with minimum of broken rice and dirt etc., the desired level of success of rice exports would be difficult to achieve. For this purpose modern rice milling plants shall have to be promoted in great number.

The gross inadequacy of storage capacity is, however, acutely felt. Although the RECP has now a storage capacity of 900,000 tonnes as against 590,000 tonnes at the time of its inception, it leaves much to be desired. The storage capacity must be increased without delay to cope with the increasing exports. The RECP has recently acquired two most modern husking plants from the private sector in addition to the takeover of six small husking plants from the Punjab Industrial Development Board. The Rice Board has recently fixed up rice procurement target for 1981-82 crop at a higher level of 1,156,000 tonnes. Accordingly storage capacity for rice will have to be increased.

It may be mentioned that Board decided to constitute a committee to look into the feasibility of constructing rice storage godowns of 100,000 tonnes capacity at various places in upper Sind to facilitate procurement of paddy and to ensure maintenance of its quality.

Rice Research Institute Dokri in Sind is doing a commendable job in rice research. The Institute has succeeded in finding out five new varieties of rice which have the potential of high yield per acre. The new variety Sugdasi has the characteristics to become ready for harvest a month earlier and is safe from pest. The other variety LET-4094 will be replaced by IRRI-6 while IRRI-2053 can be sown late and harvest a month earlier. Another new variety will not only produce grain but will also provide feed for cattle twice during the season. The fifth new variety comprises six species and can be sown in waterlogged area which will give maximum yield upto 83 maunds per acre. Research in rice should be accelerated and more funds should be made available to research institutes working in the country. It is encouraging to note that a soil testing laboratory had been set up at the Rice Research Institute Dokri at a cost of Rs. 65 million.

Here it is worthwhile to reproduce the recommendation of the Rice Conference held in early June at Larkana. The Conference recommended (i) Rates of paddy should be uniform all over the country because at present two different rates are prevalent and there is no uniform formula to judge the quantity of paddy in various parts of the country. (ii) Procurement rates of rice should be raised in proportion to the rising cost of rice production, and the PASSCO should be provided with adequate funds so that the growers could be saved from the monopoly of the middleman and PASSCO could be able to procure rice direct from the growers on full payment basis. (iii) Sufficient number of rice godowns should be constructed for stocking the procured rice and special committees should be set up to check prices of rice paid to the growers. (iv) Tax policy with regard to paddy should be uniform. (v) The growers should be exempted from the interest on agricultural loans up to 25 per cent. — *Iqbal Haideri*

FERTILIZER PRODUCTION DISCUSSED IN DETAIL

Karachi PROGRESS in English Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Text]

FERTILISER production at present accounts for about 29 percent of the natural gas consumption in Pakistan. Sectorwise, it is the second largest consumer of gas after power generation.

The share of fertiliser production in the total quantity of gas used in Pakistan was about 25 per cent in 1980-81. This has gone up to about 29 per cent with the coming on stream of Fauji Fertilisers Complex at Goth Macchi in May and the Hazara Urea Fertiliser project in March this year.

At present about 270 million cubic feet of gas a day is consumed by the seven fertiliser factories based on Sui and Mari gas. Of this about 95 million cubic feet a day is consumed by the four fertiliser factories based on Sui gas and about 175 million cubic feet by three fertiliser factories based on Mari gas.

The fertiliser factories using Sui gas are the Pak-Arab Fertiliser factory, Multan; Dawood Hercules Fertiliser factory at Chachokimalian near

Sheikhupura; National Fertiliser factory, Daudkhel and the Hazara Urea Fertiliser factory at Haripur.

The Pak-Arab Fertiliser Multan is the expanded project of the original fertiliser factory at Multan. The project is a joint venture between the National Fertiliser Corporation and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company with 52 per cent of the paid up capital held by the National Fertiliser Corporation and 48 per cent by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company. The project has cost Rs. 2181 million upto 30th June 1981. The annual production capacity of the project is 450,000 tonnes of calcium ammonium nitrate, 59,400 tonnes of urea and 304,300 tonnes of nitrophos. This is equivalent to about 214,324 nutrient tonnes of nitrogen and 70,000 nutrient tonnes of phosphatic fertiliser. The factory uses about 42 million cubic feet of Sui gas per day for the manufacture of chemical fertilisers.

Dawood Hercules Fertiliser at Chachokimalian near Sheikhupura has a rated capacity of 345,000 tonnes of urea or 158,000 nutrient

tonnes of nitrogen. During 1980, the factory produced 200 tonnes of urea which was some 100 per cent of its designed capacity. The factory is reported to have been operating at more than 100 per cent of its rated capacity since it came into being and has produced more than 3.6 million tonnes during the past ten years. The factory is currently using about 40 million cubic feet of Sui gas per day.

The National Fertiliser Factory, Daudkhel, has a rated capacity of 90,000 tonnes of ammonium sulphate per annum which is equivalent to about 18,900 nutrient tonnes of nitrogen. The factory is currently using about seven million cubic feet of Sui gas per day and produced 96,642 tonnes of ammonium sulphate in 1980-81.

The Hazara Urea Fertiliser project at Haripur has gone on trial production from March this year. It has a rated capacity of 96,700 tonnes of urea or 44,022 nutrient tonnes of nitrogen per year. The project is currently using about seven million cubic feet of Sui gas per day.

The three fertiliser factories based on Mari gas are the Exxon Chemicals at Daharki, the Pak-Saudi Fertiliser factory at Mirpur Mathelo and the Fauji Fertiliser factory at Goth Macchi near Sadiqabad in

Rahimyar Khan district.

Exxon Chemicals at Daharki near Sukkur has a rated capacity of 173,000 tonnes of urea per annum by the factory has been producing over and above its rated capacity. It produced 225,700 tonnes of urea during 1980 i.e. 130 per cent of its original design capacity. The factory consumes about 35 million cubic feet of Mari gas per day.

Pak-Saudi Fertiliser factory at Mirpur Mathelo has a rated capacity of 557,000 tonnes of urea or 256,220 nutrient tonnes of nitrogen per annum. Completed with the financial assistance of Saudi Arabian Government, Saudi Fund for Development and the Asian Development Bank the factory has been in commercial production since October 1980. The factory produced 327,924 tonnes of urea in 1980-81 and is currently consuming about 70 million cubic feet of Mari gas per day.

The Fauji Fertiliser factory at Goth Macchi has gone on production from 1st May this year. The factory was completed at a cost of about US \$ 330 million. In the setting up of this factory financial assistance was provided by the World Bank (IDA). Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Denmark, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and a consortium of Pakistani financing institutions and

commercial banks. The factory with a rated capacity of 570,000 tonnes of urea per annum is currently consuming some 70 million cubic feet of Mari gas per day.

In addition to these factories the National Fertiliser Factory, Faisalabad/Jaranwala produce single super phosphate. The factory has a rated production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per annum against which it produced 101,813 tonnes in 1980-81.

Although production of chemical fertilisers in the country has increased significantly over the years the country still imports some fertilisers to meet its requirements. In 1980-81 the fertiliser imports totalled 1,204,000 tonnes valued at 3,537 million rupees. This has come down to 260,000 tonnes of the value of 745 million rupees in the first nine months of 1981-82 due mainly to increased production of indigenous fertilisers.

With the going on stream of two fertiliser factories in the first half of 1982 the situation is likely to improve and expectations are that the country will be self sufficient in its requirements of nitrogenous fertilisers for some time to come. Other types of fertilisers will however continue to be imported until factories of suitable capacity are set up in the country.

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CLASHES IN KASHMIR--According to Moscow Radio, Indian and Pakistani troops have exchanged fires in two sectors along the Line of Control in Kashmir for more than a week. In a broadcast on Saturday, Radio Moscow reported casualties on both sides, but did not give details. Quoting the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA and other sources, the broadcast said that both parties violated the Line of Control, and in different incidents machinegun fire was exchanged. Last year, it may be recalled, after a number of incidents along the Line of Control, the CMLA-President had alleged that India wanted to convert the Line of Control into an international boundary, adding that "Pakistan will never allow it." In another broadcast, Radio Moscow accused Pakistan of increasing its military strength in Baluchistan. It also alleged that Pakistan was constructing new air bases in different parts of Baluchistan and was stockpiling modern U.S. weaponry in the province. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 9 Sep 82 p 12]

STUDENT UNION DEMANDS ACTION--The Peshawar University Students Union has demanded immediate and effective action against elements who were involved in the recent hooliganism in the Islamia College which led to the suspension of first-year admission to the institution. Addressing a Press conference here, the Union office-bearers accused the Islami Jamiat-i-Talaba of being directly involved in the incident. They alleged that the Jamiat boys had not only manhandled the members of the clerical staff, but also snatched away admission forms. Following the acts of violence, the college authorities cancelled the admission forms already issued and printed new ones, announcing a new schedule for admissions. The new forms, too, were taken away by the same elements, and consequently, admissions were suspended. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 9 Sep 82 p 15]

DETAINED WITHOUT BOOKING--A number of persons who have been under detention for the last 20 months were brought to a Summary Military Court on August 24. The court sent them on a 14-day judicial remand and fixed September 7 as the next date for hearing. All the accused were arrested on January 5, 1981 under the Army Act and had been kept in the Attock Fort for five months. On May 28, 1981 they were handed over to the FIA, Islamabad. FIA sent them to jail on June 2, 1981 charging them with anti-Government and anti-Martial Law activities. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 9 Sep 82 p 15]

SPY PARADED BEFORE JOURNALISTS--VIENNA, September 3 (Reuter)--An alleged Pakistani spy with orders to organise attacks on foreigners in Kabul was yesterday paraded before foreign journalists, the official Czechoslovak news agency Ceteka reported from the Afghan capital. It said the man, identified as Said Muhammad Ali, had been captured in Afghanistan's Nimruz province after settling out from what it described as a spy training centre at Lahore in northern Pakistan last January. "My task in Afghanistan was to organise terrorist acts against foreign representatives accredited in Kabul", he was quoted as telling reporters. Ceteka said the man also had orders to collect information on the Afghan army and had told the authorities that instructors at the Lahore centre were Pakistanis and Americans. It quoted the official Afghan news Agency Bakhtar as saying the authorities had captured about 70 spies sent in from the United States, Britain, France, Pakistan, Austria and other unspecified states. [Colombo SUN in English 4 Sep 82 p 5]

WOMEN PLEDGE TO FIGHT--The six women arrested for staging a demonstration before the U.S. Consulate in Karachi against Israeli aggression in Lebanon addressed a Press conference on their release in which they reaffirmed their determination to fight for the restoration of democracy and fundamental rights. The Press conference was jointly held by Begum Asghari Rahim, Gulzar Begum, Farida Khanam, Amina Nagori, Begum Shamim N.D. Khan and Noor Jehan Soomro. They demanded the Government not to suppress the voice of the people being raised against oppression and Israeli aggression in Lebanon. They also demanded the release of Benazir Bhutto, daughter of the late Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and other political detenus. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 26 Aug 82 p 13]

JOURNALIST'S ARREST CONDEMNED--The President of the Lahore High Court Bar Association, Abid Hasan Manto, in a Press statement has strongly condemned the arrest of Mr Amin Mughal, Assistant Editor, VIEWPOINT. Mr Mughal, he said, was a noted journalist and writer and had nothing to do with practical politics. "To arrest a person like him without giving any reason is not only illegal but also inhuman," he added. He urged the Government to release him immediately. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 26 Aug 82 p 14]

JOURNALISTS' RELEASE URGED--The Journalists' Welfare Forum and the District Press Club, Sahiwal, in two separate meetings, have demanded the release of all journalists including Prof. Amin Mughal, Ehsanullah Khan and Irshad Rao and requested the Federal Minister of Information, Raja Zafarul Haq, to look into the matter personally. On the orders of the DMLA Sector 3, Multan Zone, the correspondent of the Pakistan Press International (PPI), Sahiwal, Rashed Akmal was arrested and sent to Central Jail, Sahiwal, for three months. The District Union of Journalists, Sahiwal, in a meeting, has called upon the Government and the Martial Law authorities to release the detained journalist. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 26 Aug 82 p 16]

SEISMIC SURVEY COMPLETED--A development seismic survey about 141 line kms was recently undertaken in East Potwar by Pakistan Petroleum Limited. PPL holds a prospecting licence over this area and is the operator in a joint venture with OGDC. The objective of the survey was to further delineate the sub surface conditions for determining suitable locations for drilling wells in the future. This is the fourth survey conducted by PPL in this area since 1976. The survey was carried out for PPL by OGDC vibroseis party 'Seismic-4'. Mr. M. Anwar Moghal, Mr. Mahmood Syed and Mr. Moid Khan were attached to the seismic party as PPL's representatives. The main survey information, recorded on electronic data, was processed at the Karachi computer centre of Petty Ray Limited. [Karachi PROGRESS in English Sep 82 p 3]

WEAK EXECUTIVE COMMISSION MAY SPARK COUP

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino said yesterday a military coup d'etat could occur if the Batasang Pambansa reduces the power of the caretaker Executive Committee.

Tolentino, concurrently-minister of state for foreign affairs, said he was for keeping the present powers of the committee which includes the right to declare martial law, and change the composition of the committee itself.

Addressing the Manila Bay Breakfast Club, Tolentino said the present deliberations in the Batasan to curtail the powers of the committee were unconstitutional.

The committee takes over the functions of the President in case he dies, resigns or is rendered or permanently incapacitated.

Tolentino said that a strong Executive Committee was needed by the Philippines to preclude the possibility of the military taking over during a post-Marcos transition period.

Instead of limiting the powers of the Executive Committee, Tolentino said the Batasan should formulate "an expression of policy" to ensure that "clean and honest elections" are held in the event of the President's death or disability.

The Batasan has opened debates on the constitutionality of the presidential succession bill which was supposed to have been resolved in a caucus of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan last Monday.

CSO: 4220/364

LIKELIHOOD OF IMELDA AS PRESIDENT SCOUTED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 18 Aug 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Mike Yncino]

[Text] The PDP-Laban merger group thru its Deputy Secretary-General Ribomapi Holganza sees the ascendancy of Madam Imelda Romualdez Marcos to the Presidency.

The opposition leader said that the significance of a series of recent moves by the administration of President Marcos shows that the administration is paving the way for the assumption of the First Lady to the premier post in the executive branch of our government.

He cited the string of events allegedly giving publicity for the First Lady here and abroad and her being given several important positions as Metro Manila Governor, Assemblywoman of the National Capital Region, Special Presidential Envoy, Head of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations, Minister of Human Settlements and others.

Holganza said that lately she was named to the executive committee, who under the Constitutional amendments, is to elect from among its members the successor of the President. He said that the President in his previous statements had emphasized that the Executive Committee is the training ground for future leaders of the country.

According to Holganza, while it is true that Prime Minister Cesar Virata is supposed to succeed the president under the Constitution, he could easily be persuaded to accept a big position in the World Bank and Mrs. Marcos then would be elected in place of Virata to the presidency.

The opposition stalwart also said that the "terrorist scare" allegedly being circulated by the administration regarding an alleged plot by the opposition, labor groups, businessmen and subversives to sow terror and chaos in many parts of the archipelago next month through bombings, assassinations and strikes, is only made allegedly to dampen the opposition to the ascendancy of the First Lady to the presidency.

In a press statement issued to the VISAYAN HERALD last night, Holganza said: "The other purpose, of course, is to allegedly divert the attention of the people from the worsening economic conditions here and to weaken the fighting morale of the militant citizenry."

He said that the administration is allegedly out to instill fear, if not out to terrorize the Filipino people in the process, so that there will not be much opposition when Mrs. Marcos is ready to assume the presidency.

He cited the recent crackdown of known administration critics in Manila as labor leader Felixberto Olalia, Sr., head of the Kilusang Mayo Uno. At the same time, Holganza revealed that here in Metro Cebu opposition intelligence had picked up a report that a radio station manager a news reporter and himself are allegedly to be picked up after certain arms and ammunitions shipment are to arrive here.

He said that a communication purportedly addressed to them shall state that Rattan and Egg shipments are to arrive at a certain time in a specified place and consigned allegedly to them. He said that the word "Rattan" is supposed to mean arms while "Eggs" are supposed to be the code name for ammunition.

CSO: 4220/365

PHILIPPINES

ARMS USE NO LONGER NEEDED BY ARMY

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS 6 Sep 82 p 14

[Text] Tagkawayan, Quezon--Brig. Gen. Mariano C. Miranda, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division of the Philippine Army said that the use of arms is no longer needed to carry out its military objectives.

General Miranda helicoptered here yesterday with Colonels Orlando Q. Antonio and Jesus Bigornia deputy regional commander of PC/INP Recom 4 for Operations and Administration respectively as guest speaker on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the 31st Infantry battalion of the Philippine Army under the command of Lt. Col. Eduardo Y. Pangan.

In his speech General Miranda said that the Army has lost many men and properties in its search for peace, but the people, especially the innocent civilians, have suffered and lost even more.

It was learned from Mayors Vicente Salumbides, Jr., and Mayor Lucy Veluz of Del Gallego that the army men assigned in their towns are helpful to the civilians unlike in the past. There are now no military abuses according to Salumbides and Veluz.

CSO: 4220/364

SUBVERSIVE STRATEGY BARED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 Sep 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by Mel Parale]

[Text] Subversive elements are pursuing a master plan to set up councils in each of the country's towns and cities to solidify their move to take over the government by force, the military said yesterday quoting documents confiscated recently.

They are also busy working on the establishment of direct links with other revolutionary movements in foreign countries to gain world recognition, according to the same records.

The contents of documents seized in recent raids in hideouts of suspected subversive elements were declassified by military authorities. They were made part of evidence submitted yesterday in the prosecution of those arrested for conspiracy to commit rebellion.

The military uncovered a six-point code of duty suspected leaders of subversive elements have laid down for their chapters to carry out without letup. It seeks, among other things, to correct the "mistakes" of the movement.

They were written in Pilipino and declassified as follows:

"Ang mahigpit nating mga tungkulin:

- "1. Isulong ang Kilusang anti-pasista, anti-piyudal, at anti-imperialista.
- "2. Palakasin pa ang partido at iwasto ang ating mga kamalian.
- "3. Itayo ang rebolusyonariong kilusang masa sa kanayunan.
- "4. Palakasin pa ang hukbong bayan at isulong ang rebolusyonariong sandatahang pakikibaka.
- "5. Itayo ang rebolusyonariong kilusang masa sa mga lunsod.

"6. Iugnay ang rebolusyonariong Pilipino sa rebolusyong pandaigdig.

Translated, the documents reads: Our important duties:

"1. Advance the anti-fascists, anti-feudal and anti-imperialist movement.

"2. Strengthen the party further and correct our mistakes.

"3. Establish the revolutionary movement of the masses in the barrios.

"4. Strengthen further the people's army and advance the armed revolutionary struggle.

"5. Establish the revolutionary movement of the masses in the cities.

"6. Link the Filipino revolution with global revolution.

Indicted by military lawyers in sworn statements submitted yesterday in the conspiracy to commit rebellion case were at least four suspected ranking members of the Communist Party of the Philippines who were arrested in a raid in a house in Project 8, Quezon City, Aug 27.

They were identified as Isagani R. Serrano, head of the National Commission for Mass Movement of the CPP and who carries a P150,000 price on his head; Ricardo Reyes alias Max; Danilo Mallari alias Emil; Jocelyn Rowena de Guzman alias Mila; all ranking members of the CPP-NCMM.

Military lawyers declared that the party documents seized during the raid advocated the labor sector and the general public for an armed revolution to overthrow the government.

Military authorities assessed that the government has pre-empted the plot of subversive elements after the arrest of known brains of the conspiracy.

Government agents pressed their hunt for the remaining suspects in the plot to foment unrest in the country this month.

Among the targets is Norberto Gonzales, chairman of the Partido Demokratikong Sosyalista ng Pilipinas Central Committee who carries a P100,000-price on his head.

Thirty five detainees in different military camps in Metro Manila yesterday joined in the four-day fast started the other day by detainees in Camp Bagong Diwa, Bicutan.

The 35 include, among others, Jose Ma. Sison; Crispin Beltran; Bonifacio Tupaz; Violeta Marasigan; Belen Diaz Flores; Doris Baffrey; Horacio Morales and Fr. Edicio de la Torre.

In separate statements, the detainees asked:

- The release of detainees whose human and democratic rights, they said, have been violated.
- The release of all labor leaders, trade unionists and workers detained in various detention centers.
- The release of all women political prisoners who are breadwinners of their families.
- The transfer of all political detainees in solitary confinement to the appropriate detention center.

CSO: 4220/364

PHILIPPINES

REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE SERVICE REVAMP BELIED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 27 Aug 82 p 3

[Text] Brig. Gen. Alfredo S. Olano, PC-INP Recom 7 commanding general, yesterday belied a news report published in a Visayan regional paper the other day that he will institute a "revamp of CV intelligence service."

In a statement released through the PC-INP regional public information office (RPIO) the Recom 7 chief clarified that he will only "strengthen" not "revamp" his intelligence unit, which may require a pool of expertise in combatting or coping with problems ranging from common crimes to insurgency and terrorism.

The Recom 7 chief said that this projective move is viewed in the context of the present peace and order situation in Central Visayas, which he added, has not been spared from the inroads of terrorism and insurgency.

Contrary to the news report gathered by the "Visayas Observer" during an induction of officers of Federation of Quot Residents Association in Pardo, this city, where Gen. Olano was guest speaker, he said that he is continuously receiving intelligence information. He said that to "revamp" is to "give a new form of intelligence operation to the old one" which alternative he does not intend to undertake.

He said that he may introduce additional innovative strategies to galvanize more the intelligence capability of the PC/INP in Region 7 in regard to the problems of preventing and controlling crimes and security threats.

He said it is routine procedure for any military commander to periodically review his intelligence service to cope with new situations.

CSO: 4220/365

TIGHTENED SECURITY IN CEBU CITY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 18 Aug 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] Brig. Gen. Alfredo S. Olano, Recom 7 commanding general and INP director, yesterday directed his field commanders to tighten security measures to pre-empt possible terror bombings or grenade throwing incidents in private and public utility installations or in any place of congregation in Cebu City and other parts of Central Visayas.

This was disclosed yesterday by the PC-INP Regional Public Information Office (RPIO).

Gen. Olano's move came in the wake of President Marcos recent warning of a plot by subversives and other anti-government elements, to hold a nationwide strike some time next month which may be accompanied by terror bombings and assassination attempts against high ranking officials and personalities in the country. Olano also took the pre-emptive measure following the series of bombings that hit Davao del Norte and Davao del Sur last August 3 where 13 persons were injured in five separate bombing incidents that began in Digos.

At the same time, Olano appealed to the people in Central Visayas, especially those in Cebu City to remain calm in the face of this threat to national security.

Olano issued this appeal for sobriety when assessed of the grave problem regarding threats to the security of Cebu province and the region.

While Central Visayas is the most critical area in the whole Visayas being a place where enemies of government would most likely have its base of operations, the military and the police are taking steps to pre-empt the occurrence of violence in the region and to bring about a condition of peace and security in the area, Gen. Olano stressed.

In a related development, Cebu Metrodiscom Commander Lt. Col. Zosimo L. Angan, urged heads of all private and public utility installations, government offices and other business establishments where people congregate to also help the law enforcement authorities to adopt tighter security measures in their respective establishments.

Angan said that he has directed his intelligence operatives and station commanders in Metro Cebu area to take necessary steps and police action on any suspicious-looking persons, especially in movie houses, school premises, government buildings and other vital public utility installations and to check suspicious places for hidden explosives.

A decree imposing the death penalty, among others, was one of the steps taken by President Marcos to protect the public and to curb terrorist activities.

The President also:

- Issued Presidential Decree 1727 penalizing the act of pranksters of spreading bomb scares.
- Issued Presidential Decree 1732 granting immunity from prosecution to any witness who shall give vital information concerning the existence, operation and activity of criminal elements.

The death penalty upon terrorists is contained in PD No. 1728 which amended PD No. 9.

CSO: 4220/365

PHILIPPINES

POLICE REWARD FOR AT LARGE LABOR LEADER

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Sep 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] A P100,000 reward was offered yesterday by the government to any person who could give information leading to the arrest of the suspected leader of a terrorist group believed set to spearhead bombing activities in selected targets in Metro Manila.

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile approved the recommendation of military authorities after attempts to capture the suspect failed.

The suspect, identified as Norberto Gonzales with three aliases (Bert, Crisanto Maglaya and Hadji Yusop Tan), is the chairman of the Partido Demokratikong Sosyalistang Pilipinas central committee.

Troops confiscated Saturday 86 homemade bombs hidden inside iceboxes in a bakery in barangay Caloocan, Mariveles, Bataan, a few kilometers from the Export Processing Zone.

The explosives, which were seized Saturday, were contained in 42 family-size pop bottles, 42 round bottles of gin, and two four-cornered gin bottles.

Also confiscated were 12 pieces of blasting caps, bottles of liquid explosives and a stick of dynamite with fuse.

The owner of the bakery house was identified as Sales Creancia.

The Export Processing Zone is one of several critical facilities reportedly included in the list of targets of the terroristic activities to be staged by subversive elements.

Intelligence reports showed that Gonzales is in Luzon preparing with members of his terrorist group to launch bombing activities in coordination with other subversive organizations, notably the National Democratic Front of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

His group was tagged as responsible for the recent bombing attacks on various places in Mindanao in coordination with the Moro National Liberation Front.

Gonzales is also the principal suspect in the bombing attacks by the April 6 Liberation Movement in Metro Manila in 1980 where an American woman was killed and 70 other persons injured.

He has been wanted under a warrant of arrest issued by Judge Ernani Cruz Pano of the Quezon City court of first instance for his involvement in the 1980 bombings.

The military said Gonzales was trained abroad as an explosives expert along with other members of the April 6 Liberation Movement.

It said Gonzales was one of those who plotted a plan to overthrow the government by force.

CSO: 4220/364

PHILIPPINES

TERRORIST ARSON IN MINDANAO

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Sep 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] About 300 heavily armed men attacked in broad daylight a remote town in Lanao del Norte over the weekend and burned 30 houses in the poblacion, reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo said yesterday.

The constabulary provincial command said the raiders plundered the poblacion of Munai town apparently to avenge the death of Sultan Acmad Pantao Amparo last March.

The sultan was reportedly killed by one Japar Rascal of Munai.

Motive for the killing was not known.

The attackers reportedly tried to locate Rascal but failed.

They burned the houses thinking Rascal was hiding in one of them.

In Zambales, a resident of barangay San Jose in Castillejos town was robbed Saturday of P18,000 in cash, checks for P28,850 and P28,400 worth of jewelry, and a Ford Fiera worth P59,000.

The victim was identified as one Jose Domingo.

Five unidentified armed men broke into his house at about 3:30 a.m. and at gunpoint, hogtied the occupants of the house.

The robbers fled aboard the victim's Ford Fiera after ransacking his house of valuables.

CSO: 4220/364

PHILIPPINES

POLICE SLAIN IN ILOCOS SUR

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Three heavily-armed groups attacked Aug. 21 the town hall of Quirino, Ilocos Sur, and killed two policemen after ransacking the local armory, a belated report to Camp Crame said yesterday.

The report identified the slain policemen as Patrolmen Angelito Suda and Benedicto Garcia, both of Quirino police.

Lt. Col. Roberto C. Estrada, Ilocos Sur PC commander, said he was informed of the attack last Aug. 24.

Two other policemen, Patrolmen Jose Lumidao and Raymundo Gayad, were spared by the attackers, according to Estrada.

The policemen were locked up inside the municipal jail and were rescued only the following day.

Taken by the raiders were three armalites, a carbine and four revolvers.

Estrada said the raiders were led by Jovencio Balweg, alias Rudy, brother of renegade priest Conrado Balweg of Abra.

The bodies of the slain policemen were recovered Aug. 22 along the road near a hanging bridge less than a kilometer from the town proper, Estrada said.

A PC rescue team arrived at the Quirino municipal building at noon of Aug. 27.

CSO: 4220/364

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST CONCERNED ABOUT SECRET MARSHALS

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD 14-15 Aug 82 p 3

[Article from "Guided Missile" column by Danny M. Gonzales]

[Text] In the past week, we heard of the secret marshals and what a good job they were performing in Metro Manila in going after some hold-uppers in jeepneys and other criminal elements operating in other areas. The fielding of secret marshals was at the behest of no less than the President. And if these agents of the law would perform their jobs within bounds, the general public would welcome their presence---even applaud them as well as the President who brought them into existence.

Similar Force in Cebu?

Do we have a similar force in Cebu? Well, if Metro Manila is getting the service of secret marshals, the likelihood is that Cebu, being a large city with her own share of criminal elements' shenanigans, will also enjoy the protection of secret marshals. Do we have them here? Or have they actually operated already without our knowing what accomplishments they have made?

Shootings

We are asking these questions on the basis of a bloody incident which is now almost a week old. Only a few nights ago, a shooting incident took place in the vicinity of Gonzales Compound in Lahug. Two men with crash helmets and riding on a motorcycle pumped bullets into threemen in the area who were suspected to be dope pushers. One died on the spot, his brains blown off his head after he was shot point blank. The two others were hospitalized in serious conditions.

News Blackout?

Up to this writing, residents in the area who saw the shooting were asking why no report about the incident appeared in the local papers. Was there a news blackout? Were the facts of the case withheld from mediamen? How come not one enterprising news reporter stumbled into the story?

Personal Grudge?

Did the shootings arise from a personal grudge? Who were the enemies of the victims? If these victims had enemies and the latter went after them with intent to kill, then there was a score to settle. And, had they been living in a desert alone, one that we can consider a private affair, an internal matter. However, we live in a society of men. The case was, therefore, of interest to everyone.

Military Men?

However, having been suspected as drug pushers, the presumption of some people was that the authorities were after them. Were the gunman members of the military? Were the shootings a case of rub-out? No one can say for certain. The most one can do is ask questions.

Secret Marshals

If they were from the military, are they the so-called secret marshals? The people want to know if they now exist in Cebu--if only to avail themselves of their services should they be threatened by criminals. On the other hand, people are asking whether they are from a secret liquidation squad either of the underworld characters or of the military. Whoever these brave gunmen are, some people in the community are worried that more violence might take place in Cebu in the next few days. And they have every reason to be worried. For who wants to be caught in a cross-fire--regardless of whether the gunmen are criminal elements themselves or from the military?

CSO: 4220/365

COLUMNIST EXAMINES UNEMPLOYMENT

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 14-15 Aug 82 p 9

[Text] The Philippines is suffering from its highest levels of unemployment in its entire history. Over two of the country's workers are without a job, more than 3.5 million Filipinos, and the figure is expected to climb much higher by the end of this year. The magnitude of the country's unemployment problem has the government worried. The number of people out of work have grown rapidly over the past year.

The biggest falls of jobs lost have come in the manufacturing, mining and textile industries. Manual workers, both skilled and unskilled, are the main victims. They find it much harder to get new work once they are unemployed. It is estimated that over one million workers have been jobless for more than a year.

The depressed labor market has pose difficult problems for both national and local governments. The actual number of people who are looking for work is much higher than the official government statistics report. The labor groups (TUCP, TUPAS, etc., etc.) estimates that the real unemployment figure is already more than 4 million, many of them women and those aged between 19 and 25. On top of this, the government is intensifying its special employment program the Kilusang Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran (KKK).

President Marcos has stood firmly against the demand of labor for a P3.00 increase in the daily take home pay of workers. However, the trade union movement as a whole is in a rather divided and demoralized condition. This only goes to demonstrate the trade unions inability to make any impact on the government. It is a sign of their impotence in the face of an unsympathetic, indifferent government.

The labor unions and workers may be very much on the defensive because of the grave economic circumstances of the country. Some labor leaders believe that a great many companies are making use of the recession as a mean to lay off union members. The trade union movement has been wounded, but it has not been fatally weakened. There are internal convulsions in the trade unions, but there is little doubt that unions are waiting for a change in the economic climate.

The lack of union and workers solidarity have all made it much more difficult for the trade unions to develop a coherent strategy or program. The present trauma is seen by many union leaders as an unfortunate but only temporary phenomenon. This writer suggests that all the top union leaders meet in deep conversation on a new national understanding on economic and social policy in preparation for the forthcoming national and local elections. Whatever happens to the demand of labor for increase pay, integration of all allowances, etc., etc., this year, one thing is certain. The number of jobless will go on climbing with resulting severe social tensions.

CSO: 4220/365

UNDERNOURISHMENT IN PHILIPPINES

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 18 Aug 82 p 3

[Article from "Guided Missile" column by Danny M. Gonzales]

[Text] If you go to the slum areas these days, you'll see plenty of undernourished Filipinos. Being so, they are sickly. Bent like a stick. Coughing out the sound of nearing death. Or bedridden in the quagmire of poverty. Helpless. Pitiabile. And hopeless.

Sin of Society

The pathetic figure of a sick man in the slums is an indictment of the unforgivable sin of the kind of Filipino society we have bred. One that is hypocritical and selfish. Hence the unmitigated quest for power and wealth in order to be elevated and honored, and to live a life of comfort and ease--at the expense of so many others.

Picture of the Nation

The Undernourished Filipino is a sick Filipino. And considering that there are so many of them, both young and old, they are rightfully the picture of our nation. Lean and sickly. And at the brink of falling down. For his strength is slowly sapped by the vampires among his brother and sister Filipinos. What a sight--a leech for a brother! Yes, take your pick. Either vampire or leech, there's not much difference. Both suck blood.

Life of Contrast

Thus, what we see in our country today is a life of contrast. Between affluence and poverty, unmitigated power and helplessness, obesity and thinness, excessiveness and inadequacy--or what have you. The disparity is great. The gap, as the expression goes, is a yawning one. And the iniquity it breeds is shocking! Yet despite the laments and protestations not much has been done about the situation. Instead the gap between rich and poor has widened. And the hope of narrowing it is getting dimmer every day.

Envy, Distrust, Hate

The good fortune of others is looked upon by the less fortunate with envy. And pronouncements by the rich to do something for the poor is viewed with distrust. How many times have we heard those familiar lines? This is the question often asked by the poor. And the distrust easily turns to hate: "Why are so few so rich--and so many of us so poor?" A valid lament. And explanations are aplenty, but solutions are scarce.

Irreversible?

Must the present situation continue to prevail? Is the ever-widening gap between rich and poor an irreversible trend? Will the bridge be built? Who will do it? And when? When all is too late and useless? The questions are many and easier made. But the answers are very difficult to come by. Like the elusive fox, they have evaded the hunters for the Filipinos' better tomorrow. And each time we look with sad eyes at the undernourished Filipinos, we can only grieve over the hunt being an exercise in futility. For, although the hunters are there and great in numbers, most are corrupt and simply lack that simple human ingredient which used to abound in our great men of the yesteryears--SINCERITY.

Notes...

The concerned Filipinos for Press Freedom (CFPF) directors and group leaders for the raffles project will meet at 3 p.m. today at Snow Sheen restaurant.

CSO: 4220/365

PHILIPPINES

LAWYERS, MILITARY IN DIALOGUE

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 25 Aug 82 p 1, 2

[Article by Mike Yncilino]

[Text] Lawyers belonging to the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP)-Cebu Chapter and other umbrella organizations of the legal aid group met yesterday afternoon at Camp Sergio Osmena, Sr., with a military panel headed by Brig. Gen. Alfredo Olano and other PC-INP officials to discuss with each other areas of mutual cooperation.

Lawyer Winefreda Geonzon, Legal Officer of the local IBP chapter, prepared a list of topics for discussion during the said meeting which included: intensified militarization, killings of persons branded as NPA's, maltreatment of suspects especially during custodial investigation, segregation of minors, transfer of rebel suspects to the adjacent detention center formerly occupied by student-detainees, non-return of warrants to the courts, borrowing of prisoners, getting certifications of entries in police blotters and other related matters in the criminal justice system.

A no-holds-barred open discussion of the topics mentioned started the dialogue. RECOM 7 Chief Brig. Gen. Olano assured members of the lawyer's group that there is no "intensified militarization" as claimed by others.

According to the PC brass the military here is merely acting to preempt any possible acts of terrorism from subversive elements who, he said, are allegedly involved in a nationwide plot to sow chaos and terror in the different major urban centers of the country, including Cebu.

Olano fears that just one bombing of any establishment in this city could create panic among its populace and cause great economic repercussions. He also belied speculations from some quarters that the training of barangay tanods and barangay policemen is militarization. He said that this is only preparedness in case anything happened and is part of the civil government's program to create self-reliant defense forces to check subversion or criminality.

The RECOM 7 Commander, however, emphasized that barangay tanods should not be police characters and have to be appointed by the Mayor upon

recommendation of the barangay captain and the police station commander of the said town where they are appointed.

He also said that Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF) are also mandated by higher authorities to be set up in critical areas where the military could not be expected to protect the residents of the said area. He said the CHDF's are forces for the protection of barangays in the hinterlands faced with the imminent and present threat of subversion and rebellion.

Gen. Olano also asked the IBP officials to present to him the names of PC-INP men who were allegedly responsible for the alleged killings and maltreatment of detained rebel suspects. He promised to take immediate disciplinary action against any such PC-INP personnel found violating the laws.

Earlier the IBP representatives in the dialogue raised the alleged killings of a certain Damiano Quijada who they said was reportedly "borrowed" from the detention center by a certain PC soldier. Quijada was reportedly found dead days later in Bairan, Asturias town. His body was reportedly riddled with bullets. The other victim, the IBP representatives mentioned, was a certain Sali Cohitmingaw. Lawyer Geonzon disclosed that Cohitmingaw's father averred that his son was in the company of the Vice Mayor before he was allegedly shot and killed by a PC soldier.

The IBP lawyers also asked for the stop of maltreatment during custodial interrogation of suspects. They cited the case of detained rebel suspect Maximo Pacquiao and a certain Cabaron. The lawyers also chided the personnel of a government hospital here for allegedly giving out a "negative" result on a maltreatment victim even as IBP members allegedly saw and noted the bruises and contusions suffered by the person.

Some of the other members of the IBP panel who attended the dialogue included Lawyers Nazario Pacquiao, Joseph Baduel, Eddy Roseno, Esperanza Valenzona, Meindrado Paredes, Gines Abellana, Democrito Barcenas and others. The military on the other hand was represented by Gen. Olano, Col. Simeon Kempis, Deputy Regional Commander for Administration, P/Col. Burden, Major F. Degamo, Major Jose Ayap, and Major Luis Kintanar, of the Judge Advocate General's Office.

Halfway through the forum, the lawyers and the military agreed to explore the possibility of members of the group to assist in the orientation of lawmen in the legal aspects of arrests, detention and interrogation even as the military said that they are currently undertaking the same to reorient some PC-INP personnel who still have martial law habits in conducting their jobs.

CSO: 4220/365

CHINESE COMMUNITY REJECTS CHARGES

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 26 Aug 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Leo D. Fabular]

[Text] Prominent Chinese in Cebu City have reacted sharply to what they call a smear campaign by some quarters of the media on the Chinese community.

A Chinese businessman who is also a member of a local Rotary club said "the smear campaign is directed towards the Chinese community in general." This is "unfair," he said.

The man who sought anonymity said that he won't feel bad if the campaign is directed only to the bad ones in their community. However, he pointed out that it includes even the good Chinese.

"I am not against it if they go all-out against these big-time Chinese smugglers who are economic saboteurs rather than generalizing on all the Chinese" he said.

The fact is, the Chinese businessman claimed, the Chinese community have helped so much in the development of this country.

"It is the Chinese community that is contributing so much and giving life to advertisements in order that some radio programs and other media outlets could survive" he pointed out.

On the other hand, a former governor said that if the present state policy will continue, "our country will be ran by the Chinese."

The former governor said the present administration has given privileges to Filipino Chinese businessman rather than to pure Filipinos themselves.

An example of this he pointed out is the giving of subcontracts for the importation of about \$3-million worth of new tires to four companies of Chinese capital by the state-owned Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC).

The Chinese he said, do not only control the country's economy but also its cultural outlets, such as radio, newspapers, schools, television, civic organizations and others.

The former governor said many Chinese mestizos are now holding political positions nationally and locally.

Meanwhile, Ralph Veloso and a handful of concerned citizens, are reportedly looking into the alleged smear campaign on the Chinese community here.

Veloso said "it is true that there are so many no good Chinese in the country. However, it is unfair for those who are good to be included in the campaign.

CS: 4220/365

POPULATION COMMISSION PLANS FOR 1990'S

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Sep 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] Zamboanga City, Sep 3--More and more Filipinos will soon learn to think in terms of a family of three children for the 1980s and a family of two for the 1990s.

The Population Commission revealed during its fifth national outreach congress here today some recommendations submitted to the Cabinet to strengthen the Philippine population program.

Popcom executive director Antonio B. de los Reyes said the recommendations aim at achieving the country's targetted 2 percent population growth rate in 1987 and 1.7 percent growth rate in 1992.

The recommendations include measures for promoting effective family planning methods, the lessening of emphasis on effective methods which are not very effective and greater inter-governmental co-operation to increase the number of contraceptive users.

The Popcom, he said, also recommended for the first time that the Philippines' population program officially adopt and advocate certain family planning norms or ideals.

De los Reyes said that the introduction of norms will create desirable attitudes toward limiting family size among Filipinos and will complement efforts to promote the use of contraceptives.

The norms to be introduced include:

- A family size of three children in the 1980s and two in the 1990s.
- Birth spacing (average of interval between birth) of two years in the 80s and three years in the 90s.
- Delayed marriage for women to age 23 and for men to 25.
- Reduced incidents of teenage pregnancy to decrease the number of births among 15 to 19-year-old girls from 40 out of 1,000 in the 80s to 35 in the 90s.

CSO: 4220/364

PHILIPPINES

ILLEGAL LANDING OF CHEMICALS FOR EXPLOSIVES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Bacolod City, Sep 5--Military authorities are looking for 20 sacks of chemicals used for making explosives brought into this city before the interception Aug. 21 of a sizeable shipment at the Banago wharf here.

Constabulary authorities said yesterday they had verified information that a previous shipment of 20 sacks of potassium nitrate had been successfully landed in this city and transported overland to southern Negros.

Brig. Gen. Alfonso Trance, PC regional commander, has ordered Lt. Col. Mario Hidalgo of Task Force Kanlaon to pinpoint the whereabouts of the chemicals.

Intelligence operatives under Maj. Tiburcio Fusilero, head of the Western Visayas group, intercepted 10 drums of potassium chlorate and 20 sacks of potassium nitrate on Aug. 21.

The amount of seized chemicals would make enough explosives to blow up the commercial center of Bacolod, PC explosives experts said.

Lt. Arnulfo Tibus Jr., PC chemist, said that samples of the seized chemicals were potassium chlorate and potassium nitrate.

Potassium chlorate and potassium nitrate, particularly sodium or ammonium nitrate, are basic components of explosives, he said.

CSO: 4220/364

IMPROVED COPRA PRICES SEEN

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS 5 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] The new domestic demand for coconut oil is expected to perk up the farmgate prices of copra, or the prices of copra sold directly by farmers to traders or oil millers, the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) said Thursday.

This development was brought about by the PCA disclosure that the government will buy coconut oil from the local millers at world market prices as a hedge against the depressed world market situation and more particularly for use in its coco-diesel program.

At present the local price of copra ranges from P140-to-P170 per 100 kilos.

PCA chairman Rolando P. dela Cuesta said the coco-diesel program being undertaken by the Philippine National Oil Co., the millers' new but steady market, needs a continuous supply of coco oil.

PNOC is to purchase all its coco oil requirements from small mills, or those that have failed to export more than 40,000 metric tons or operate more than 65 percent of their annual rated capacity in the past two years.

It was further understood that the four bigger coconut oil mills affiliated with the United Coconut Oil Mills, Inc. (Unicom) will concentrate on exporting coconut oil.

The world market price of coconut oil fluctuates from 17 cents to 20 cents per pound.

The PCA has likewise calendared a meeting this week with leaders of the Association of Philippine Coconut Desiccators (APCD) to brief them on the new rules regulating their operations.

President Marcos has ordered the PCA to freeze all applications for the establishment of new desiccated coconut processing plants to limit production and discourage cutthroat competition among local producers.

PCA has been directed to adopt measures, like the imposition of floor and ceiling prices for all exports of desiccated coconut, prescription of quality standards, establishment of maximum quantities for particular periods and particular markets, and inspection and survey of export shipments.

The PCA may allow the setting up of a new plant, expansion or upgrading only when there is an existing market demand or need to effect growth and viability of the industry.

It was noted that in the past three years, several factories for desiccated coconuts have sprouted, increasing local production capacity by 28.5 percent over the 1979 level. The PCA expects the output to further increase by 46.5 percent.

World capacity is placed at 228,000 metric tons while demand is about 135,000 metric tons, thus resulting in an over-capacity which has spawned cutthroat competition, schemes of price rebates to foreign buyers and outright smuggling.

CSO: 4220/364

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

RESUMPTION OF MARTIAL LAW--The re-imposition of martial law is a big possibility to happen. Even now, the Filipinos' minds are already oriented to it--what with the fielding of the so-called secret marshals in Metro Manila and, possibly without our knowing it, also in Metro Cebu. Thus, the reign of terror has already been ushered in by the daring performances of the secret marshals. What will follow are the reverberations of violence: bombings and assassinations! To say nothing of other acts of violence. Or other shenanigans which, in order to be checked, calls for nothing less than martial rule. Yes, Virginia, martial law--like lightning--can strike twice! [Text] [Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 23 Aug 82 p 4]

CSO: 4220/365

RATA SPECIAL WARFARE CENTER IN LOPBURI VIEWED AS POWER BASE

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 19 Aug 82 pp 16-18

[Article: "Red Beret Division: Whose New Power Base?"]

[Text] In a procession of military units, the Special Warfare Center, established at the Somdet Phranarai Maharat Camp of Lopburi province, is one that catches the eye and where the pulse is always felt, because it can be said that that unit is the pulse of the army. That is because it is a unit of superior ability, of the best or top men in the army. Here, as in other armies of the world, "paratroopers" are believed to be the best soldiers. In addition to great ability in actions up high, they must also have great ability in "show," because when military visitors come to Thailand they are shown various demonstrations of the activities of the Special Warfare Center, which include parachute jumps, airborne maneuvers, special fighting, psychological activities, and long-range patrolling by death squads, etc. The special warfare center is a unit that was created by the army by expanding the parachute battalion of the infantry center and the parachute battalion of the First Army Region into a special fighting force and the Special Warfare Center, respectively. At this time these units are not clearly distinguishable as to whether they are training units or forces because they are a mixture. The Special Warfare Center comes under the army rather than the Army department of military training, just like the cavalry center and artillery center, which are training centers under the army as well. The Special Warfare Center has its own fighting force, which is just like a flying unit of the army, that comes under the army as well.

The Special Warfare Center expanded from having just one fighting force, the First Special Fighting Force (paratroopers), Camp Wachiralonkhon, also called "Rattan Forest Parachute Battalion," into two forces, with the second Special Fighting Force (paratroopers) stationed at Camp Somdet Phranarai Maharat; and then to three forces with the third force (paratroopers) stationed at Camp Erawan, and finally the status as the regional force, but that idea was suppressed during the period when General Kriangsak Chamanan was prime minister.

The Special Warfare Center has been continually confronted with political problems because to be a competent unit it must always have "big shots" in it with influence among Red Beret units that possess power. When the era changes it

change personnel, and this has happened continually. No matter who is big or who is small, the Special Warfare Center has expanded and increased its role, although some people have tried to impede that because if an important center like this expands too fast it could easily become a force used by one person to direct political events against another. But they were unable to impede it. The special unit wearing red berets and red silk tassels and gold wings expanded from a battalion to another level, but they felt they had not yet reached the highest level of paratrooper or special warfare units, that is to be a true "fighting unit" at the "division" level.

The Special Warfare Center will create a "special fighting division" at the request of the army. It will take the form of a support unit for the expansion of the paratroopers and special fighting soldiers by creating a structure for the units under the Special Warfare Center. The commander of the center is a 1st general. The actual force that splits off will have as its division commander a major general, just as units at the division level all over. The name of the unit will be "Special Fighting Division," but that name doesn't mean that the special fighting division will have its headquarters attached to the Third Special Fighting Force (paratroopers) at Camp Erawan. The expansion plan for the unit of paratroopers was laid early this year. After discussions in the army all the way to the supreme commander, the office of the Deputy of the Department of Defense, and the Minister of Defense, in turn, permission was granted to establish the unit, the Special Fighting Division, this past 28 July.

When the force was expanded into a special fighting division all four special fighting forces (paratroopers) will change their names from "force" to "department" to keep pace with the Special Fighting Division. The head of the fighting force will become the head of the fighting department and ranks will rise from ordinary colonel to (special) colonel, like all department heads. The mother unit, the Special Warfare Center, will be responsible for the airborne quartermaster force, the psychological activities division, and the special warfare school to produce "supermen" to fill the various special fighting departments of the new Special Fighting Division.

This expansion of the "Red Berets" can be called lightning-flash style because it took less than a year to carry out. The order of Defense was to set up the special fighting divisions during 1982, which shouldn't create any problem because the troops of the four special fighting forces are all there and the budget for 1983, passed by congress on the first day, sets up a budget for the new division.

The "special fighting division" has plans to expand still more shortly, because infantry department 31, which was set up as a parachute infantry who parachute jump like infantry soldiers, and this is the unit wearing red berets, will become a complete "airborne" department in the next two years to train all the soldiers in all three forces of the department to parachute jump. The airborne department has the opportunity to become a department in the special fighting division as well, and when that happens the power of this division will become greater than all the units at the level of division, because altogether there will be five departments of high class soldiers.

At present four departments are considered a lot, because an important division like the first division to protect the king has three departments: the first infantry department, the Royal Page to protect the king; infantry department 11 to protect the king; and infantry department 31 to protect the king in Lopburi, which is the aforementioned "airborne" unit. When expanded to five departments, it is anticipated that it will have to divide into two divisions as in the cavalry, a first special fighting division and a second special fighting division.

Let's look at the individuals who will be in charge of the newly established special fighting force and the commanders of the special fighting force (paratroopers) who will become commanders of the special fighting departments.

At the special fighting (paratroopers) department level, there are Colonel Wisut Kanchanasit, Colonel Narong Pharachim, Colonel Chin Sittivan, and Colonel Udom Kepphraham, the commanders of the first through the fourth departments respectively. The deputy commander is expected to be one of these two people: (Special) Colonel Phayap Prachantasen and (Special) Colonel Kamphon Ketphrom, both of whom are paratroopers at the Special Warfare Center. As for the commander of the division, quite a few reports mention (Special) Colonel Thawon Khlayonsut, deputy commander of the Special Warfare Center, and there are reports that Maj Gen Phichit Kulawanit, commander of the first division to protect the king, will become commander of the special fighting division, as well as reports that Maj Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, commander of the army air center could become commander of the division. Looking at these names, (Special) Colonel Thawon Khlayongsut has prepared in army class 7, which is the final parachuting training in the army military training course, and he is also Class 1 Ch.P.R., where the basic theory of the army officers training at West Point in the U.S. is followed. Maj Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong is Class 1 one rank behind (Special) Colonel Thawon, and Maj Gen Phichit Kulawanit will become Class 2 Ch.P.R. in a year's time and was selected for further training at the West Point officers school in the U.S. When he returns he will be an officer stationed with the paratroop division. All three are paratroopers. Therefore the score is unclear as far as their military merits are concerned. Once again an important thing is to be purely of the "infantry group." The Red Berets expect that the person who becomes chief of staff will probably not be an outsider. It could be (Special) Colonel Wichien Onnut, presently deputy commander of the Special Warfare Center. Another group has its eye on an ex-paratrooper who left the Special Warfare Center where he was deputy commander of the special warfare school, Maj Gen Ruansak Chaikomin, now commander of division 4 of Army Region Three at Camp Naretwon, Phitsanulok province. But it is believed that Maj Gen Ruansak is more likely to remain in the "regional army" line because the chance of rising to army commander is not difficult for officers of his ability. One other person spoken of who could return to his old home among the paratroopers without difficulty is (Special) Colonel Chua Phosinak, provincial army commander of Chiangrai, who transferred from a paratroop unit where his last position was commander of the airborne division. Chua Phosinak is mentioned because he is an important officer Class 5 of the Ch.P.R. who is becoming well-known and upon whom the sun is shining.

Paratroopers are believed to be superior soldiers and to be a unit of muscle in the army, used as a base of support for all the "big shots" past, present, and future. We must look at the expansion of the unit by dividing the force and creating a special fighting division and see who will be behind the unit in this year in which the army has a new commander at the same time the important fighting unit at the division level is established. The two are probably related, especially as this unit comes under the army and the army commander. Therefore to understand what's what we must know who is responsible for the "special fighting division."

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CSO: 4207/150

LOPBURI ATTACK ON PREM ANALYZED

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 15-21 Aug 82 pp 8-10

["In the Nation" column: "The Military Suppresses the Military"]

[Text] The story of the arrests of an influential group in the military in Lopburi province was revealed last monday in a startling three-line headline that said: "Athit orders arrest of influential military colonels, lieutenant colonels, and leaders of the gang that made attack." The essence of the report was that General Athit Kamlangek, Assistant to the Army Commander and Acting Commander of Region ONE, ordered Colonel Annuai Kitsuwat, Commander of Airborne Troops, with a force of about 20 military police and soldiers to detain four non-commissioned officers of the army in Lopburi province for questioning.

The non-commissioned officers with ranks of sergeant major and sergeant were Sergeant Major Surasak Kutsonsuk, commander of the service squad; Sergeant Sutchai Ma-im, deputy commander of the service squad; Sergeant Chaiwai Rotsamoe of the military police of the provincial army military police; and Sergeant Thongchua Nilaloet of the military police of the same company. All four were accused of being behind and supporting a criminal gang of robbers and extortionists and selling weapons. Two colonels and one lieutenant colonel were implicated in this as well and were secretly arrested the following day. The report said that the first two were captured on 5 August and the other two, of the provincial army, were taken the next day.

Dangerous Conduct

According to General Athit there were many complaints from the people of Lopburi province about influential men in uniform who oppressed them worse than ordinary bandits and terrorists. Up to then criminals had been suppressed by the military police together with naval generals in that province, and the number of criminal cases had decreased considerably. It was ordered that the truth be investigated, and it appeared that there was truth to the complaints. Therefore, it was ordered that those in command of Region One be questioned. "Anyone implicated, whether big or small, is to be questioned to see who has done wrong," General Athit told reporters.

Comparable with Petchaburi province, "city of gun hands," Lopburi also has a nickname, "city of ransom," because many years ago the practice of taking rich people for ransom was thriving among criminal gangs. Most of these criminals were supported by influential groups in the region, as in other provinces. As Lopburi is the base for many units of the military, such as the Center for Artillery Soldiers, the Special Warfare Center, the commanding forces of joint department 31, etc., there are frequent reports of influential groups of various criminal bands using their uniforms to protect them as they reap benefits.

"Farmers in trouble have been complaining for years. Because there is sure evidence in the arrests this time, and they will surely strike in other places such as Petchaburi... This is called carving the chicken while the monkey watches," a news source in the army told SU ANAKHOT.

Following Order 65/2525

"End the taking advantage and bullying of citizens. Red uniforms must be gentlement and good people who conduct themselves so as to benefit the nation and the people," General Prayut Charumani, army commander, said in a speech to influential members of the military before the arrest of the four non-commissioned soldiers under the prime minister's order 65/2525, the plan for political action to defeat the communists, that stresses that civil servants must be prevented from becoming their benefactors, squeezing and taking advantage of the people. Violation would bring heavy punishment, as Colonel Marudon Detpradiyut, Secretary of the Army, also announced many times later.

Earlier, General Prayut had called for a meeting of important military officers and commanders, enjoining commanders of all units to be strict with the members of the military whose conduct was not exemplary and to have those forces consider moving those people out of their positions. In addition, the order to arrest influential members of the military in Lopburi served as an example for those who use their uniforms to gain influence and advantage from the people.

In truth the suppression and destruction of regional influence was a policy of Prem from the time he was Deputy Minister of the Interior, and it was stipulated as policy in the struggle for victory over the communists under order 65/2523 of the prime minister. One aspect was the eradication of injustice in society at all levels from the local to the national, which was carried on later in the latest policy for political attack. However, in practice, this could not be carried out as long as the network of influence from the national to the local level remained strong and as long as there were close connections with state officials.

Mystery and Complexity

In essence, the reports of this incident would not have created any suspicion if there hadn't been an important incident in the half-month previous, that is the assassination attempt on General Prem Tinsulanon this

past 18 July on his way to unveil the monument to P. Phibun-songkhram at the artillery center in Lopburi, the same province in which the arrest of the influential military men took place, inviting thoughts of whether the two incidents might be connected.

The attempted shooting of General Prem with an M.72, which is generally used in shooting at large tanks, in which two shots were fired at the interior of Prem's vehicle while he was getting into a helicopter, and in which the first shot misfired and the second missed, hitting a tree nearby, was reported as a special news item only in the newspaper MATICHON weekend and MATICHON daily. Afterwards, the army and important officials kept their lips sealed, unwilling to reveal actual details of the incident.

"I don't know. I didn't see anything. There's no news story, no report. They are talking nonsense," General Athit said in an interview with the same newspaper, but he opened his mouth to say one thing: "They were acting as usual. The various types of explosions occur regularly. I don't think there is any..."

Then, the truth comes out

"It's not true. It's the sound of different types of artillery. The artillery field is right by Khokkrathiam, so one can hear shooting practice from a distance of three kilometers," Lt General Chantharakhup Sirisut, secretary to the Prime Minister, told SU ANAKHOT at the end of last week, suggesting that it was the desire of those who released the story to spread dirt. "On Sundays they practiced for commanders who visited the unit, or sometimes students would come to see them shoot."

Similarly, another of SU ANAKHOT's news sources in the military reported that, "That day there may have been an artillery demonstration coinciding with Pa's passing by, making it sound as if he was shot at..."

SU ANAKHOT got the truth from a source in a high-level post in the government, who maintained shortly after the incident that there was really an assassination attempt on General Prem but he had no details because the military was trying to hush it up. Last Tuesday there was a news story of a different drift that claimed that the arrest of the influential members of the military in Lopburi was certainly the same matter as the assassination attempt on General Prem, because after the first incident a committee was established to investigate, thought it didn't say who was on it, and they had found that the wielders of the M.72 were officers at the level of sergeant in the airforce and the army who had been arrested.

"As for the four non-commissioned soldiers, they were middlemen who passed on information. It is understood that the two colonels and one lieutenant colonel issued the orders," the news source claimed, unable to give more details.

The news source revealed that on that day the criminals used an arching M.72 gun, where direction had to be calculated before shooting. But it appears that the first bullet misfired and missed the target, and the second shot missed and hit a tree. "There wasn't time for a third shot. The two men fled first." At the same time another news story revealed that in the shooting that day Major General Amphon Sombun, Top Commander of the Lopburi artillery center, who was standing nearby, was nearly killed. But the report didn't state whether or not General Amphon was wounded.

"I wasn't presiding over the examinations. But I was a victim. Don't ask me to say any more. It would spoil the investigation..." Major General Amphon answered SU ANAKHOT's question. Before that he had admitted that one of the two colonels who were named in the case of the influential members of the military was an officer of the artillery center. "They are worse than the police because they use weapons of war that the police can't use..." the leader of the artillery center said meaningfully.

Who is behind it?

The assassination attempt on the leader is gradually becoming clear to government and military circles in the period following the events of 1-3 April, of which no one could confirm the truth because there appeared only an increase in the strictness of the protection of Prime Minister Prem and General Athit at certain times. At times, General Prem changed his ordinary car for an armored car and had 21 officers from Sua Ratchini military camp armed with hand weapons attending him to insure his protection. And General Athit required a unit of over 10 people to protect his safety.

The question is who made the attempt. Is it that there still exist today a group of individuals that lost power in the incident of 1 April that wanted to create turmoil so they could return to power, or was it greenhorns in the forces with some political motive?

No one yet has any evidence for these suppositions, although SU ANAKHOT's intelligence sources hint that it may have been a plot by the "Young Turks."

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BHICHAI ADVOCATES WIDER FOREIGN POLICY OPTIONS

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 2 Sep 82 p 6

[Text]

THAILAND should have more than one "trump card" in its foreign policy to deal with the problems in Indochina, leader of the Democrat Party Bhichai Rattakul said.

Bhichai told about 100 members of the party during a panel discussion Tuesday night that Thailand should seek other alternative approaches to the Kampuchean conflict apart from the formation of the Kampuchean coalition government.

Speaking on the topic of "Effects of ASEAN Policy on Indochina to Thailand," Bhichai said there was a question whether Thailand can afford to have a confrontation with Hanoi.

He pointed out that Vietnam now ranked third in military might after China and the Soviet Union. He said the Vietnamese are now armed with 5,100 tanks, 4,800 artillery pieces compared to 644 tanks and 499 artillery pieces possessed by the Thai armed forces.

Bhichai suggested that Thailand should adopt a "package deal" with Hanoi to solve the deadlock over the Kampuchean problem.

He then outlined

the following steps that he said should be taken by both Vietnam and Thailand toward a solution to the conflict in Indochina:

- 1) Thailand and Vietnam hold diplomatic talks over the problem in Kampuchea
- 2) stop armed activities by all parties concerned
- 3) UN peace-keeping forces are put in control of the country
- 4) Vietnam withdraws all of its troops from Kampuchea in six months
- 5) Heng Samrin is allowed to take part in a new coalition government
- 6) general elections are held in four years
- 7) China makes a non-aggression pact with Hanoi
- 8) The US and Soviet Union guarantee the neutrality of Kampuchea
- 9) Vietnam helps the US locate its soldiers missing in action during the Vietnam war
- 10) China, US and Soviet Union sign a joint agreement to help reconstruct Kampuchea.

Bhichai, a former Foreign minister whose liberal foreign policy was severely criticized at the time, said: "Thailand should have several 'trump cards' — not just one — to solve the problem in Indochina."

DEVALUATION PRESSURES SAID TO LOOM IN FUTURE

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Sep 82 pp 17, 20

[Article by Theh Chongkhadikij]

[Text]

A MAJOR independent US consultant company predicts that Thailand "will build towards a large devaluation" of the baht later this decade.

It forecasts exchange rates as low as 28 baht to the US dollar in 1985 and between 33 and 35 baht to the dollar in 1990.

However, the Asian Strategies Company, based in Boston, Massachusetts, believes that there will not be a devaluation as long as "the Government has more politically acceptable and possibly more economically effective policies at its disposal to keep the current account in check."

It said a significant depreciation of the baht would only occur "when the political leadership feels it can pass along the cost to the Bangkok population or when it comes up with a way (e.g. increased oil subsidies) to apportion the cost elsewhere."

The scenario given for such a move was:

"The structural problems in the economy are so fundamental that the purchasing power parity of the baht would continue to decline. This points to a baht-dollar rate falling by four to five percentage points annually. To the extent that short term considerations inhibit the government from making adjustments frequently, Thailand will build towards a large devaluation later in the decade."

The ASC said that devaluation would occur only when it was felt that "it will be an effective fillip to agricultural production when demand for Thai commodity exports increases."

It also said that there will be downward pressure on the baht as long as inflation rates remain higher in Thailand than in the industrialised countries that are the major source of Thailand's imports and the key markets for its exports. "However, there are ways of avoiding this pressure in

the short term," the company said.

With Japan Thailand's largest trading partner and wide swings common between the dollar and the yen (as well as in European currencies important to Thailand), "it makes sense to adjust the baht-dollar rate to take account of these fluctuations," the ASC said.

The conclusion from this was: "Eventually, the baht will have to parallel more closely the fortunes of units other than the US dollar, and especially the yen."

The ASC said that the long-term outlook for the baht "will depend on reducing inflation rates and/or raising productivity."

But it added that "even if the Government had an effective policy to achieve these goals, the structural problems in the economy are so fundamental that the purchasing power parity of the baht would continue to decline."

The ASC, which reports to major US businesses, also outlined the following potential risks for the 1980s:

- Severely curtailed economic growth due to financial constraints.
- Operational risks derived from specific government policies to cope with crises (such as import bans, price controls, exchange restrictions, devaluation).

- Default or debt rescheduling.
- Thailand's current account deterioration and rising levels of external debt were singled out by the ASC as critical economic factors determining specific risks.

Government projections based on fundamental policy changes point to an average annual current account deficit during the Fifth Development Plan (1982-86) of US\$5.2 billion. Contributing factors to this staggering figure were named by the company as

a rapidly growing trade imbalance and rising debt service obligations.

The Plan has targeted to reduce the average annual current account deficit to US\$1.8 billion by 1986. The target, however, assumes that basic policy changes will be fully implemented.

The company said that neither projection should be considered accurate. It said that US\$5.2 billion a year was clearly unsustainable because it would force Thailand to add nearly US\$25 billion to its current outstanding external debt of more than US\$27 billion at the end of 1981. The US\$1.8 billion annual average was "unrealistically low since many of the policy measures need to achieve it are politically unacceptable."

The World Bank forecast that Thailand would have an average current account deficit of US\$3.9 billion through the mid-1980s unless it faced up to its structural economic problems. The ASC forecast is slightly more optimistic because it presumed that at least some minor structural changes will be implemented, that oil prices will remain stable, that Thai exports will command better prices in

foreign markets beginning in the second half of 1983, and that the Government will be able to borrow to cover current account shortfalls.

In an introduction to its report, the ASC said it was apparent that Thailand faced a dilemma increasingly common around the world. "The time for economic restructuring was in a period of plenty, when relative pain would have been less. But there (was) then no incentive to structural reform, even had the power to do so existed. Hence many opportunities were lost, for example in the areas of taxation, tariff levels, and the drain of the state sector.

"Reform is now even more essential — that is, the incentive plainly exists — but the Government is as weak as ever, and resistance to reforms will be fiercer than in the past due to the current economic decline and the worse prospects ahead."

On the positive side, the ASC believes that the Government has come to appreciate the assistance that foreign business can

provide in overcoming the country's impending difficulties. But it cautioned that there were two main risks involved: The economic risks consequent on not taking remedial steps and the political risks caused by taking them.

There are also certain unpredictable risks due to fortuitous internal developments, or to external developments of an economic, military or diplomatic nature.

The likeliest scenario, according to the consultants, was the "soft option" of borrowing as an alternative to structural reforms, with salvation coming through some presently unexpected political opportunity, failing which, through efforts organised either by the country's lenders or by its diplomatic and economic patrons.

The ASC said that "some actors are determined to achieve structural reforms, while others are equally determined that there shall be none."

STAND

On the existing structure, the ASC said: "Thailand's favourable growth record, unlike that of Singapore, Taiwan or Japan, has had nothing to do with government planning, with the single significant exception of the Government's traditionally conservative decision to stand aside and let growth happen.

"Likewise at the present moment of economic downturn, the situation is 'out of control' of a weak government, unable to assign costs or losses, and the highest priority of which is survival in office. The current leadership represents the alliance of bureaucratic, military and feudal power, and it will continue to intervene in markets (which they do not understand) to assure the continuance of their power incomes, wealth,

and status. The path to reform is clearly constrained by certain dilemmas of the Thai political economy."

Among the dilemmas mentioned by the ASC was that improving the terms of trade of the agricultural sector (where Thailand's comparative advantage clearly lies) would undermine the political peace in the capital by increasing urban living costs and hurt industrialisation, since rice is a wage good.

Modernisation of the economy would require much money. But the ASC analysis said that the stagnation of government revenues at 13-14% of GNP and the repeated rejection of inheritance, gift and property taxes, showed that the elites were unwilling to pay for this modernisation.

An unidentified World Bank official was quoted as saying: "Most governments figure correctly that they would not have much time in power and why take the unpopular but necessary economic measures which would only speed their downfall."

On current expectations, the ASC said: "In negotiating situations, for example, with the World Bank, government officials insist that the reforms will be carried out but avoid any conditionality on the flow of funds keyed to fulfilment of government promises. To sustain public confidence they assert that the exploitation of domestic energy discoveries will avert the need for serious belt-tightening measures, despite the fact that domestic energy will not come on stream sufficiently soon or in sufficient volume to accomplish this."

The ASC said that at the level of practical domestic and international politics there is the sound knowledge that there are few rewards for fiscal prudence, mainly penalties. "Far more fis-

cally sinful countries than Thailand have been saved, because the alternative was worse for someone else. Despite rhetoric to the contrary, this is the ultimate reliance of present government leaders."

"Soft option" measures described were as follows:

- Continued "heroic" measures to support high growth rates by world standards.

- Borrowing to meet foreign-exchange shortfalls.

- Rhetorical commitment to foreign equity investment without adopting the indicated remedial measures (rescinding price control legislation and other market-distorting interventions, e.g., export quotas, local content requirements; reducing bureaucratic impediments; dismantling government monopolies, e.g., in transport and communications).

SERVICE

- Continued lip service to structural reforms to ensure uninterrupted inflow of World Bank funding.

- Cushioning the political impact of economic decline by quotas, tariff increases, price controls; maintaining or increasing government subsidies e.g. on petroleum fuels, electricity and bus fares.

"From a commercial viewpoint, it is widely believed that the foreign lending banks will go to almost any length to avoid a technical default, since this is as bad for the banks as for the country involved," the ASC said.

In a geo-strategic assessment, the ASC said "it is believed that Thailand is too important, as a frontline state against Russia's proxy, Vietnam; the country would not be allowed to fall into financial difficulties and a rescue effort would be crafted...a fortiori, Thailand will be saved."

GEN ARTHIT NAMED TELEPHONE CHIEF

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 25 Aug 82 p 3

[Text]

THE Cabinet yesterday approved the appointment of Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Arthit Kamlang-ek as the chairman of the new board of directors of the Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT).

Communications Minister Adm Amorn Sirigaya said there was no objection from any of the Cabinet members to Gen Arthit's nomination.

He said he was confident the new board of directors will be an efficient one since its members also include the chiefs of signals departments from the three Armed Forces.

Adm Amorn reiterated yesterday that he chose Gen Arthit to lead the state enterprise because he need-

ed someone to "make decisions."

When asked whether Gen Arthit, who is also concurrently holding a number of other high-ranking posts, would be able to devote his time to the work at the TOT, Adm Amorn said: "the chairman of the board only has to see to it that the work is carried out without delay. The chairman does not have to personally do the work himself."

Gen Arthit said he decided to take the

post because he had been asked to do so by the communications minister. He asked for a brief period to study the work of the TOT.

Speaking to reporters at the headquarters of the Bangkok Peace Keeping Force, Gen Arthit said he would do his best to fulfill his responsibility as the chairman of the organization.

Gen Arthit is currently commander of the Bangkok Peace Keeping Force, Assistant Army Comman-

der-in-Chief and Commander of the First Army Region.

The other six members of the new board of directors of the TOT whose appointment was approved by the Cabinet yesterday: Rear Adm Siri Sirirangsi, Air Vice Marshal Vichai Kanchanapa, director general of the Post and Telegraph Department, Col Pratheep Chaipanee, Kamchorn Sathirakul and governor of the Communications Authority of Thailand.

CSO: 4220/376

END